

US asks allies to join in new sanctions on Russia

The United States is planning further retaliation against Russia for its military intervention in Afghanistan, and is asking its allies to help. Mr Harold Brown, the American Defence Secretary, said in Peking that China and the United States could answer Soviet actions with "complementary actions in the field of defence".

Middle East air and naval bases sought

In a speech condemning the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, Mr Brown said he had come to China to "broaden the security dialogue between our two governments and to exchange views on how we might facilitate wider cooperation on security matters". Taken together with Vice-President Walter Mondale's declaration last August that a strong China is in America's interest, Mr Brown's statement appeared to move the two former adversaries closer to a military alliance.

Mr Brown went a long stride further than the Vice-President, with promises of "close consultation", expanded professional contacts and exchanges, and discussions of specific defence problems.

The Defence Secretary made these statements at a banquet given by Mr Xu Xiangqun, the Chinese Defence Minister, in the Great Hall of the People. Although Mr Xu also attacked the Soviet Union's "aggression and expansion" as sources of a "serious threat to world peace and international security of all countries", he did not go as far as Mr Brown in emphasizing the mutual interests of Sino-American relations.

Mr Brown's speech was also examined, and Mr Christopher said that the Western response to Soviet aggression in Afghanistan had to be firm, determined, and of considerable duration. He said he had found on his recent visit that European leaders regretted that their reaction to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 had lasted so short a time.

Very severe reprisals

Above all he said, the Soviet Union must understand that any further act of aggression would meet with very severe reprisals. Presumably the American forces in the Indian Ocean will be kept there and used immediately if there is a new Soviet advance in the region.

Mr Christopher specifically mentioned four ways in which he hoped the allies would respond. They should not supply substitute grain to the Soviet Union; they should terminate aid programmes to Afghanistan; there should be some action with respect to diplomatic representation; and action should be taken similar to America's in the economic sphere.

He said that the Nato group would meet to discuss these matters this week.

Defence Secretary Harold Brown, the United States Secretary of Defence, warned the Soviet Union in Peking today that if the shared interests of America and China are threatened, "we can respond with complementary actions in the field of defence as well as diplomacy".

Lions to tour South Africa

A British Lions rugby team will tour South Africa this summer. The four home rugby unions decided yesterday they would proceed with the planned tour of 18 matches, starting in May and ending in July, shortly before the opening of the Olympic Games in Moscow. England plan precautions against demonstrations expected when they play Ireland next week.

Korea CIA blunders

The South Korean secret service, the Korean CIA, is said to have done more to undermine its government's position than any communist plot.

Tito illness

Two heart specialists, one from America and one from Russia, have been called in to attend President Tito of Yugoslavia, who is 87. The President has a blood vessel ailment.

Sunday papers vanish

Two Paris Sunday newspapers, *Le Figaro* and *France-Soir*, *Dimanche*, have stopped publication. Production and distribution difficulties are blamed for the disappearance of the first and staff claims for that of the latter.

Land mine kills three UDR soldiers

From Christopher Thomas Belfast

Three members of the Third Battalion of the Ulster Defence Regiment were killed and four seriously injured in a land mine explosion last night near Castlewellan, Co Down.

It happened at 8.30 pm at the Burren Bridge on the Dublin road when a remote-controlled bomb exploded under the front vehicle in a Land-Rover patrol.

They were on routine patrol travelling in two vehicles.

The land mine claimed the 2,001st victim of Ulster's decade of terror. The three dead were in the first vehicle, which took the force of the blast. The second vehicle ran into the crater.

Talks resume: Ulster's politicians today begin the delicate process of trying to break the political stalemate that has characterized most of the past 11 years of bloodshed.

A constitutional conference, which nearly collapsed before it could start because of disagreements between Roman Catholics and Unionists over the agenda, opens at Stormont against the background of a threatened "imposed solution" by the Government if it fails to reach agreement.

The indications are that with or without accord no proposals will be put to Parliament before the spring. Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who will be chairman at the sessions, is prepared to meet the two sides a week for at least three months, and longer if necessary.

The two key participants are the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, and Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party. The two men, both European MPs, are said to have established a rapport during private discussions in Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

The Ulster Unionists are barely managing to maintain a public posture of unity over their instant refusal to join the conference. Mr James Molyneux, the party's leader, remains convinced that the talks will collapse and vindicate his opinion that they are a waste of time.

His strategy is based on the belief that the Government will then hand over extensive powers through a new regional council that he believes seems increasingly improbable.

Mr Adams is determined not to hand powers back to Northern Ireland without extensive and elaborate safeguards for the Roman Catholic minority.

With the absence of the Official Unionist, the "loyalist" banner will be held solely by Mr Paisley, who is being described by the Dublin media as the most important unionist in Northern Ireland.

He emphasized his determination to make the conference work: "We will talk about things that can be achieved", he said.

"If we are all realistic there could be a measure of agreement for devolved power to elected representatives."

"The Union people will not give in to any system that is going to bring about a united Ireland."

Also out, said Mr Paisley, was an institutionalized Irish dimension or power sharing as under the old executive.

Somewhere in Whitehall Mrs Thatcher's plan had already been drawn up. "If we do not succeed there will be an imposed solution. I do not think we would like anything the British Government would put upon us."

Minister killed

Johnstoneburg, Jan 6—A minister in the Ovambo homeland government in South-West Africa has been killed by a landmine. Pastor Cornelius Ndjoba, the Chief Minister, said today that the landmine was laid by two bodyguards died instantly when their car triggered the mine near the village of Ongandjera.

Princess Margaret

Princess Margaret has returned to Kensington Palace after a minor operation at the London Clinic for a benign skin lesion. A spokesman for the Princess said the operation had gone well.

Teachers' pay

Heads say they will strongly resist claim for a flat 10 per cent increase across the board.

1949 Cabinet papers

How the Cold War came to Britain with concern at Soviet aims in Europe and subversives at home 3

Viewing figures

BBC says Queen's Christmas television broadcast was watched by total of 28 million

By car to the Continent

A Special Report on ferry services, motorways and where to eat and stay 10, 11



Rallying support: Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council, opening his campaign for the Rhodesian general election with a rally yesterday in Highfield black township near Salisbury.

About 5,000 people attended the meeting, the same number who supported a Patriotic Front rally last weekend. However, many of

Bishop Muzorewa's supporters had been brought to Highfield in a fleet of several hundred buses.

The atmosphere yesterday resembled that of an American party convention. There were drum majorettes dressed in party colours and officials handed out sun visors bearing the words "vote for the UANC—the winners". Guerrillas flock in, page 5

More public spending cuts essential for growth, Mrs Thatcher says

By Fred Emery Political Editor

More cuts in the coming year's public spending were essential if there was to be any chance of economic growth and of further reductions in income tax, Mrs Margaret Thatcher confirmed yesterday.

The Prime Minister was resolutely unspecific throughout a 30-minute interview on London Weekend Television. But she said she would be pleased "if we got £2 billion off", meaning a further reduction to 1980-81 public expenditure, which the Government had already cut back by about £3,500m from the last Labour Government's plan.

Mrs Thatcher said that she was looking at everything, "whether it's been a sacred cow or not". That review includes Civil Service manpower, the inflation indexing of unemployment benefits and subsidies to municipal housing.

Mrs Thatcher said she was not shying away from the battle against inflation and repeated her homily on people earning their standards of living not expecting to see them keep up with inflation. People must not automatically expect to have their standards of living linked to the retail price index.

"The standard of living depends on what you earn and not on where the index is."

As surprising as Mrs Thatcher's repeated hopes for further income tax cuts was her view of prospects for a settlement of the steel strike.

She told her interviewer in London Television's *Weekend World*, Mr Brian Walden, that she was "not looking half so black" at the strike as he was. While she could not tell the British Steel Corporation management what to do, she believed that reason would prevail. "If I've done anything it's just been this: to try to say 'look, you must please go on negotiating'."

Both sides knew where they could achieve more productivity, and hence money. "If they talk, they will come to a reasonable conclusion," she said. If, however, the strike went on, she believed that other sectors of British industry and workers would "complain" and have an interest in persuading the steelworkers to be reasonable.

Mrs Thatcher's public spending proposals were promptly derided by Mr Denis Healey, the former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr Healey noted what he termed her "ambiguity".

In a BBC Radio 4 interview on *The World This Week*, he suggested that that was the striking difference between the Conservative in Opposition and as Prime Minister. There was no longer talk of a referendum to

decide industrial disputes, and he marvelled that Mrs Thatcher had even agreed that the law could not do everything.

However, the Prime Minister made no bones about her hopes for further income tax cuts—where some of her Treasury colleagues have recently suggested taxes may have to rise since times Mrs Thatcher mentioned her preoccupation with tax cuts as stimulus to producing wealth. She suggested that no one would have remembered the Good Samaritan if he had not had money as well as good intentions.

She conceded that the "Thatcher experiment" for economic revival meant that there would be greater inequality. She insisted that allowing people to exercise talent and opportunity meant more inequality, but it means you drag up the poor people because there are more resources to do so."

Appearing live from 10 Downing Street in her first British television interview since becoming Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher spent most of the time on fine points of detail, rather than being challenged on more general policy implications.

She was not asked for comment on her own, or further tactics to secure the £1,000m of "our money" back from the European Economic Community.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Fishermen's trip ends in tragedy

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

A fisherman died and two others were missing in the river Mersey off New Brighton yesterday when their light motor launch capsized in rough seas. Hundreds of spectators lined the promenade as an air-sea search was mounted. Merseyside policemen plunged into the sea and reached one man but could not bring him ashore. An RAF helicopter from Valley, Anglesey, later recovered the body.

Police last night named the dead man as Paul Richardson, aged 33, of Whitland Road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

The missing men, in their early 30s, were Raymond Bonk, of Sughall Massie, the Wirral, and John Henry, of Edinburgh Road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

Steelmen demand 13% on table before talks

By Paul Routledge Labour Editor

The national steel strike reaches a fresh crisis on its sixth day today as union leaders confront the full board of the British Steel Corporation (BSC) with their minimum terms for renewing peace talks.

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (ISTC) and the National Union of Blacksmiths (NUB) will tell BSC that rises of 13 per cent from January 1 must be "put on the table" if negotiations aimed at calling off the stoppage are to restart.

British Steel is expected to reject these conditions, arguing that the industry cannot afford more than the tentative package of 8 per cent across the board plus an extra 4 per cent guaranteed local productivity money proposed in talks with the unions last Friday.

A joint meeting of executives of the ISTC and the NUB will follow this morning's discussions at the corporation's headquarters, and it is as likely, the meeting with the board set up by Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, comes to nothing, the steelworkers will consider spreading their successful picketing to steel stockholders and the private sector.

TUC leaders who are anxious about the widening of the dispute and the impact it will shortly have on the manufacturing industry, will take part in the talks with the board, the first since 100,000 workers came out in the industry's first official all-out strike since 1926.

They include Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TUC's influential Economic Committee, and Mr Moysty Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, which is now officially backing the strike. They and the TUC general secretary will have an opportunity to convey their fears to the Government when they attend the first meeting of the National Economic Development Council to be chaired by Mrs Thatcher on Wednesday.

But the arithmetic of British Steel's offer is almost certain to preclude any early settlement of the dispute. BSC has laid down its own conditions for the 8 per cent offer, which the unions have rejected.

And the unions do not like the way BSC has cast its local productivity payments. In the form it now takes, the offer gives workers at plant level 1 per cent for reaching an agreement on improved output and financial performance, and after three months a lump sum of a minimum of 3 per cent payable to settlements. For public service workers, the corporation is adamant that bonuses must be earned before they are paid.

A note of personal bitterness is creeping into the dispute which will add to the difficulty of reaching a negotiated solution.

Stockholders' fears and "cheating" on pay, page 2

Mrs Gandhi's party set for sweeping victory in elections

From Richard Wigg Delhi, Monday morning

Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party appeared today by early results in this country's mid-term general election set to inflict a crushing defeat on the Janata party and return her to power not three years after she herself was stunningly defeated at the polls.

With results declared in only a handful of the 544 constituencies which polled yesterday and last Thursday, Mrs Gandhi's party had secured 47 seats and the Janata party only four. The breakaway Lok Dal party of Mr Charan Singh has none so far.

In Delhi itself Mrs Gandhi's party had taken three of the four seats so far declared. The sole Janata seat, New Delhi, out of all seven Delhi constituencies which went to Janata in March 1977, was won tonight by Mr A. B. Vajpayee, the former External Affairs Minister, by a margin of 4,000 votes.

Mrs Gandhi, self assured as always, had gone to bed before midnight after the early trend was clear with her party ahead in 77 constituencies out of 89 where counting is proceeding.

It was a strange victory night in Delhi, in contrast to March 1977 when I remember the crowds of ordinary Delhi folk completely blocking the Shah Zafar Marg, this capital's Fleet Street, as they watched on the big polling boards astounded and yet proud of themselves, the signs of Mrs Gandhi's defeat.

Last night there was only a small crowd of Mrs Gandhi's party supporters outside the offices of the *Times of India* which had defied come out for her as the election campaign began. They cheered almost automatically every Indira Congress victory, even when Mr Bansi Lal, Mrs Gandhi's former Defence Minister and friend of Mr Sanjay Gandhi went ahead in his Haryana constituency by 26,000 votes.

Three years ago Mr Lal was judged so malodorous by his party colleagues that they expelled him from the Congress.

A first batch of constituencies voted last Thursday. Yesterday when a second batch of 298 constituencies went to the polls the overall turnout was put at 60 per cent.

Calculations being made here show that, if the present trends hold, Mrs Gandhi will have a comfortable majority in the 542-seat Lok Sabha.

In two other Delhi constituencies India Congress victories could be seen as national pointers. In one where half the voters are Harijans (untouchables), Mrs Gandhi's party evidently got their votes and not the representative of Mr Jagjivan Ram, the Janata leader and the country's best known Harijan.

The other win was by a close friend of Mrs Gandhi's younger son, suggesting Sanjay has by no means been the hindrance to his mother's comeback he was widely thought to be during the campaign.

The Lok Dal party of Mr Charan Singh, the caretaker Prime Minister put in by President Sanjiva Reddy after the Janata party broke up in the summer, appeared headed for disaster, with even Mr Brij Prakash, the Agriculture Minister, trailing last night in an outside Delhi agricultural constituency.

Among the former Janata ministers in difficulties were Mr H. M. Patel, who held the portfolios of Finance and Home Affairs, in his Gujarat constituency, and Mr Biju Patnaik, the Steel Minister, for who years has run Orissa as his political life.

The only victory for the Government so far came from the Lakshadweep Islands, off the South Indian coast, where Mr Muhammad Sayeed, of the anti-Gandhi Congress which was in Mr Charan Singh's coalition, won his seat again.

It seemed only to underline at this early stage how bad were the fortunes on the mainland of the fatally split Janata, which in 1977 won more than 300 seats.

Last night's turnout was high in West Bengal, where the ruling Marxist Party is expected to do well, but only moderate in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, two states which saw a high turnout three years ago. Desperate units of the Indian Army being put on the alert at some "sensitive" constituencies in the northern state of Bihar, police had to fire into the air yesterday in one constituency to prevent three violent mobs backing rival candidates.

Frequent attempts by rioting mobs to capture polling booths were reported on a large scale in several Bihar constituencies. Three people were killed and five others injured when bombs were carried to a village in another Bihar constituency. Official sources said last night it was suspected that the bombs were being carried to disrupt polling.

More than 1,000 people were arrested by Bihar police today.

Sicilian leader shot dead by terrorists

From Peter Nichols Rome, Jan 6

Terrorists murdered Signor Piersanti Mattarella, the president of the Sicilian Regional Council, today. An anonymous telephone call claimed responsibility for the killing for a Movement of Revolutionary Fascists.

Signor Mattarella was shot in his car when he returned home with his wife and other members of his family. His wife was shot in the hand, apparently trying to protect her husband.

The victim, aged 44, was the island's leading Christian Democrat and son of a well-known politician. Though mortally wounded, he managed to leave the car and move towards his assassins in a pool of blood. He died in hospital.

The assassination took place outside the victim's home and opposite the residence of the Prefect, the representative of the state in the island.

Signor Mattarella's 19-year-old son, Guido, was driving the car. He stepped out to open the garage door when the killers opened fire with what appeared to be large-calibre pistols.

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HOME NEWS

Home Office refuses to supply the names of people who have died in custody from non-natural causes

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office has refused to provide names of people who have died in police custody from other than natural causes since 1970. A letter from Lord Belstead, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, says they "could be obtained only at disproportionate cost".

He was replying to a parliamentary question by Mr. Peter Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham, who has now told Mr. William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, that he does not accept this. Since the statistics of each individual case have been collected, it can be seen from more than 100 cases that the actual names.

Mr. Meacher notes in his letter that there have been 245 deaths in police custody in England and Wales since 1970, including 143 from non-natural causes, or about fifteen a year (rising from three in 1970 to 30 in 1978).

In nearly 10 per cent of the cases (23 of 245) there was apparently no inquest. Mr. Meacher says, even though it had repeatedly been said that no investigation was necessary because there was always an inquest.

What concerns him most about the figure, he says, is that according to notes attached to the Home Office statistics cases where no inquest was held include deaths due to cerebral haemorrhage caused by a fractured skull, "heart

attack" (in several cases) and "acute heart failure".

Mr. Meacher wants to know why the coroner in each case failed to initiate inquest proceedings.

He is also disturbed by the causes in 15 cases where an open verdict was returned rather than, for example, misadventure or suicide. They include "hanging" and "fractured skull".

Inquiring about the distinction between 62 cases of "misadventure" and 39 cases of "accidental death", he says: "For example, if a man chokes on his vomit, that may go down as death by 'misadventure', but what if he had been roughed up in his cell beforehand?"

Also, the distinction between natural and non-natural causes of death is not clear either. If a man dies of a heart attack, presumably that would be a natural cause, but what if it followed his having been man-handled with some violence? So how genuine are the categories of "natural causes" or "suicide"?

Mr. Meacher adds that he is disturbed at the "apparent failure" of the procedure for complaints against the police regarding violence.

He tells Mr. Whitelaw: "In 1978, according to the annual report of the Police Complaints Board, there were 2,154 complaints referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions alleging assault and 2,330 complaints of assault submitted to the board under section 2(1) of the Police Act, 1976.

"Yet in not one case did the

board recommend disciplinary charges being taken.

"I find this strains the credibility of the system beyond belief and I hope you will therefore agree that a radical overhaul of this system is now urgently needed."

Kelly inquiry call: Sir Harold Wilson, the former Prime Minister, has renewed his call for an immediate public inquiry into the death of his constituent, Mr. James Kelly, the

Mayfair labourer who died after his arrest last June by Merseyside police (a Staff Reporter writes).

After Sir Thomas Hetherington, Director of Public Prosecutions, announced on Friday that no charges would be brought against police officers in the case, Sir Harold said that the decision meant no sub-judice rules could be invoked to inhibit the production of evidence to an inquiry.

He said a public inquiry should be set up at once after his report published without delay.

Mr. Martin Plannery, chairman of the Tribune Group and Labour MP for Hillingdon, called for an inquiry into the Directorate of Public Prosecutions itself.

"Never does this body prosecute a policeman," he said. "I have seen the case of the Yorkshire Ripper than in get the DPP to act properly where the police are concerned."

There has not been a charge in one single case of this type, even though massive evidence has often been available."

possible results of the criminal process it was essential, in a civilised society, that an innocent person should not suffer it.

There was only one way in which that immunity could be achieved, namely by strict rules restricting the procedure to be followed by the police during investigation and evidential rules governing the criminal trial which operated heavily in favour of the accused.

It was not possible to have two sets of rules for investigation and trial, one for five or six capital cases, the other for 2,500,000 other crimes reported to the police every year.

"The robber, the burglar, the fraudster, all these and many others enjoy the safeguards rightly intended to avoid putting the innocent in jeopardy of wickedness, many of whom will have certainly not been innocent."

He adds: "The cost of the dubious satisfaction to be got from the execution of four or five admittedly detestable murderers each year is the acquittal of literally thousands of other innocent people."

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The 1949 Cabinet papers-5: The Cold War comes home with double challenge

Concern at Soviet aims in Europe and subversives in UK

By Peter Hennessy

The Cold War came home to Britain in 1949. Worry over Soviet intentions in Europe was supplemented by anxiety about subversives furthering the Communist cause inside the United Kingdom.

Mr. Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, established a Cabinet Committee on Subversive Activities under the chairmanship of Mr. A. V. Alexander, the Minister of Defence. It was concerned about the employment of "communists and fascists" (fascists were always included to give an impression of balance) in Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Supply outstations and by companies engaged in secret contract work for the Government.

Mr. Alexander prepared a paper for the Cabinet meeting of May 19, 1949, which was set out in the Public Record Office last week under the 30-year rule on ground of continuing sensitivity. The discussion of it, however, is available in the Cabinet minutes.

Alexander reported, in the language of the minutes, that "the service and supply departments had evidence that unreliable persons were being employed on highly secret work by the nature of which it was vital to the security of the state". An early example of the purge in operation is revealed in a "personal minute" of the Prime Minister dated August 19, stating that there was no option but



Mr. Attlee: Ordered removal of Communist.



Mr. Chuter Ede: Saved idea of Commonwealth.

fascists should not be employed on such work, but no public announcement would be made. The ministers concerned would ask affected firms to "remove" such people.

On May 19 the Cabinet had decided that communists and fascists in departmental outstations should not be employed "in connexion with work of the nature of which it was vital to the security of the state". An early example of the purge in operation is revealed in a "personal minute" of the Prime Minister dated August 19, stating that there was no option but

to discharge a Mr. Nohes, a communist employed by the Stationery Office, at its Harrow establishment, which "must be treated as secret".

Another 1949 Cabinet paper still too delicate to release last week dealt with information about the United Kingdom's "war potential" which the Soviet Union and its satellites seemed intent on collecting. A brief for the Prime Minister, prepared by Sir Norman Brook, Secretary of the Cabinet, on July 20 gives away much of the story, however.

The Chiefs of Staff, according

to Brook's minute, were particularly worried. A working party established by the Joint Intelligence Committee had found "a compromise between the defence and civil points of view". Brook told Attlee: "The working party did not consider that any substantial changes are needed in the published economic statistics. The control of the publication of operational information (ie, information about specific factories, etc) presents greater difficulties and they recommended that the Security Service (MIS) should consult with certain firms selected on the basis of the Key Points List drawn up for defence purposes, with a view to safeguarding the production of key commodities (Brook's italics) that is, products of exceptional importance to our war potential. There is good reason to suppose that industry will be willing to cooperate with the Government on this basis, and that such action would have important serious economic or commercial disadvantages.

Five days later the Cabinet received a memorandum from Mr. Chuter Ede, the Home Secretary, prompted by Commons questions suggesting that Canadian communists (British subjects under the British Nationality Act, 1948) visiting Britain to inspire dockers to strike in sympathy with the Canadian Seamen's Union should be deported. On that occasion, however, the Commonwealth idea triumphed over the fear factor. Mr. Chuter Ede told his colleagues:

At the present critical stage in the development of the Commonwealth it would be a serious mistake to depart from our traditional policy of giving all British subjects the right to enter the United Kingdom and to enjoy the same rights and privileges as are given to United Kingdom nationals. It is important that the status of being a British subject should have a real meaning, and freedom to enter and remain in the United Kingdom is one of the main practical benefits that British subjects enjoy.

The 1949 papers contain one collector's item for students of the secret world whose doings normally remain carefully concealed from the public as they are not covered by the 30-year rule. Sir Percy Sillitoe, Director-General of MIS, 1946-53, flits across the pages of the Prime Minister's personal minutes. Attlee wrote to Mr. Creech Jones, Secretary of State for the Colonies, on July 4:

I am arranging for Sir Percy Sillitoe to visit Hongkong to deal with the security situation as proposed in your minute of July 1. I should like you to inform the Governor that he is going out with my authority and will report to me on his return.

The Government was worried about the colony as the communists moved closer to their final victory in the Chinese civil war. The Cabinet Office's "weeder" when sifting the file, must have failed to notice the offending item as the minute does not give Sir Percy's title.

Concluded

Too many acquittals-Sir Robert

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Sir Robert Mark, the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, says in this month's *Security Gazette* that the criminal justice system is ineffective to a damaging extent in two ways.

"It makes the prosecution of wrongdoers unnecessarily difficult and sometimes impossible, and it ensures the acquittal of too many of those actually charged."

Most of those acquittals could not be described as perverse, he says. "In arriving at them, counsel, jury and judge are simply observing the rules."

"It is the system, rather than the participants, which is at fault, though this is not to suggest that some wrongdoers and their advisers do not abuse it."

He says that the public was startled to hear that his research into jury trials in 1965 disclosed that acquittals in contested cases amounted to 39 per cent, not the 8 to 10 per cent which had previously been wrongly assumed.

He writes in January's

Security Gazette: "That figure has now increased to 50 per cent, no doubt partly as a result of 'paper committals' by the lower courts in obviously inappropriate cases, resulting in the present high number of acquittals directed by the judge."

"Direct acquittals aside, I think it likely that an unknown proportion of those found not guilty will have, nevertheless, committed the act with which they were charged. They are, however, rightly entitled to acquittal under our present system if the burden of proof cannot be discharged."

Sir Robert relates his arguments to the abolition of the death penalty. In the article Sir Robert says: "The realisation that judicial execution was inseparable from the process of criminal justice as a whole, and that its continuance could do other than weaken its effectiveness and prevent long-overdue reform of the investigatory and prosecutive systems was for me the only unsoundable argument for its abandonment."

He argues that if judicial execution was to be one of the

possible results of the criminal process it was essential, in a civilised society, that an innocent person should not suffer it.

There was only one way in which that immunity could be achieved, namely by strict rules restricting the procedure to be followed by the police during investigation and evidential rules governing the criminal trial which operated heavily in favour of the accused.

It was not possible to have two sets of rules for investigation and trial, one for five or six capital cases, the other for 2,500,000 other crimes reported to the police every year.

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In brief

One body on raft is identified

Cornish police expect to be able to name tomorrow the woman whose body was found on a lifeboat off Land's End last Wednesday. They believe she was a Cornish woman who lived on the Isle of Wight.

Her dead companion was identified on Saturday as Mr. John Raymond Povey, aged 31, the director of a firm of computer consultants, of Hackney, London.

Off for record attempt

Mr. David Springbett, a Lloyd's underwriter, left London for Los Angeles yesterday on board a Concorde aircraft for his attempt to travel around the world in under 48 hours and set a record. The journey is to start tomorrow.

Briton found dead

Mr. George Blackford, aged 57, of Perth Street, Hull, who has been missing for nearly six weeks, has been found dead in a river at Nuremberg, West Germany, where he was on contract work as a welder for his Hull-based employers.

New law should protect job opportunities for the disabled, commission says

By Pat Hooley

Social Services Correspondent

The employment quota scheme for disabled people should be strengthened, not scrapped, the Manpower Services Commission has been told by the Disability Alliance.

Employers should be obliged to meet their quota or pay a levy into a central fund, and job opportunities for disabled people should be safeguarded under a new law.

The commission is expected to publish its recommendations for the future of the present quota system in the latter half of this year, after issuing a discussion document last June. The present system, which requires companies with more than 19 workers to employ 3 per cent of registered disabled people, has been widely evaded since it was introduced in 1944.

But the alliance argues in its comments that the quota system has failed because of the ineffective way it has been administered by the employ-

ment services. Fewer than 10 companies have been prosecuted since 1944 for failing to meet the quota.

"Many employers are evading their obligations towards the employment of disabled people with impunity", the alliance says.

"An improved quota system should embody the idea that all employers have an obligation to take the needs of disabled people into account and should include sufficient penalties and incentives to make this a reality."

It recommends the adoption in Britain of a quota and levy system similar to that introduced in West Germany in 1974 to help disabled people to find employment. Britain already has experience of a similar system under the Industrial Training Act introduced in the 1960s.

The German system requires employers in both the public and private sectors to employ 6 per cent severely disabled people if their work force

exceeds 16. Those who employ less than the quota pay an equalisation levy of about £28 for each unfilled quota place each month, and the money raised is used partly to subsidise employers who give jobs to particular categories of disabled people.

Such a system would have a number of advantages in Britain, the alliance says. It would place an obligation on all employers that could be met by implementation or default, instead of reliance on the cumbersome and little used sanction of prosecution.

It would also provide employers with an incentive to consider how their work could be made suitable for disabled people, both through the levy and through a system of grants to compensate them for any extra expenditure incurred.

In addition a grant and levy system would provide a source of revenue for the range of policies disabled people needed in seeking and keeping jobs.

'Raise child benefits as incentive'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The question of work incentives should be tackled humanely by raising child benefits to help working families, the Child Poverty Action Group says in a letter to the Prime Minister published today. The group points out that higher child benefits would boost the incomes of working families without helping those out of work because child benefits are deducted from social security benefits.

Miss Ruth Lister, director of the group, argues in her letter that raising child benefits is a more effective and humane way of tackling the "why work" syndrome than ending the index linking of short-term benefits. The latter move would penalise some of the most vulnerable people who could not work or cannot find work.

She says that the public was startled to hear that his research into jury trials in 1965 disclosed that acquittals in contested cases amounted to 39 per cent, not the 8 to 10 per cent which had previously been wrongly assumed.

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Keep 'quango' for countryside, ministers urged

By a Staff Reporter

The Council for the Protection of Rural England is seeking assurances from ministers that the Countryside Commission will not be abolished in the Government's review of "quangos".

"The commission is a government agency independent of Whitehall which is charged with promoting conservation of the beauty and amenities of the countryside and its enjoyment by the public."

Mr. Christopher Hall, director of the council, in a letter to Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr. Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport, said that there was hostility to the commission inside and outside the Government.

But he hoped the ministers most concerned valued the expertise and independence of the commission which served as the "amenity conscience" of the Government. That role had resulted in a good deal of criticism of the commission from government officials and from the Country Landowners' Association, he said.

The Queen had an audience of 28 million

By Our Arts Reporter

The Queen's annual Christmas television broadcast had a total audience of 28 million in Britain, according to figures issued yesterday by the BBC.

About 19 million people watched the afternoon transmission on BBC 1, 7,500,000 watched it on independent television at the same time and 1,500,000 saw it in the evening on BBC 2.

The film with the most viewers was *Where Eagles Dare*. The audience of 25.5 million on Boxing Day was claimed by the BBC to be the best figure for any channel over the period.

The string, the main film on BBC 1 on Christmas Day, was seen by an average audience of 19.5 million, and on the same day, again quoting the BBC figures, independent television had its best holiday audience for the film, *Goldfinger* (14.5 million).

The return of Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise on the commercial channel Christmas Day attracted 10.5 million and the same number watched *This Is Your Life*.

The BBC said that the viewing ratio in its favour for the first days of the holiday was 57-43.

Council treasurer on how to abolish rating system

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

Domestic rates could be abolished without the need to introduce a substitute tax and without any loss in local accountability, a local authority treasurer claims in a report in the *Local Government Chronicle*.

Since the Conservative Party promised to abolish domestic rates a suitable alternative has been sought, but no new system has been devised that satisfies all requirements. The solution proposed by Mr. Michael Beasley, county treasurer of Berkshire, is simple in essence, but while it may create a good deal of interest there will also be considerable opposition.

It depends basically on charging a realistic price for many local services now either subsidised or free.

This year the yield from the rates is £6,100m, of which £2,800m comes from domestic rates and £3,300m from industrial and commercial rates.

The rates were a reasonable system when property was a convenient and fairly suitable measure of ability to pay, at a time when many people had

little more than enough to sustain life, let alone pay taxes and rates, Mr. Beasley says.

"Those circumstances have long since gone. An alternative method of financing local government is needed which ensures that democratic control remains with the electorate and is, if anything, strengthened. It needs to stimulate efficiency and economy. It needs to reduce or abolish the well known anomalies of ratings."

Mr. Beasley's plan is radically to extend the power and duty of local authorities to charge for many services and to require that their cost is fully or substantially covered by charges.

Paying the full economic cost would soon demonstrate how much services were required, and citizens would soon say whether services should be provided, reduced or abolished, he says.

Accordingly, he suggests savings of £2,188m out of a rate-borne cost in 1979-80 of £2,894m on local services. The savings include the ending of subsidy from the rates for housing.

Where people cannot pay the full rent the Government should provide the subsidy.

Soviet farm produce gives food for thought

The presence of Russian processing ships off the Cornish coast and the periodic outcry about sales of cut-price EEC butter remind us that the Soviet Union is one of the most influential of all food-importing nations.

Lack of published information, combined with restrictions on movements by foreigners, mean that much of Soviet agriculture remains a mystery to outsiders. Most nothing is known in the West about an important section of the Russian food trade, that between the Soviet Union and its allies in Asia and eastern Europe.

Little is known about its trade with the West, except to those who sell to it. The Irish Livestock and Meat Board said in its annual report last week that Russia had probably bought more than 250,000 tons of meat last year. That is more than the total weight of lamb produced annually in the United Kingdom.

"The bulk of beef imports are likely to come from eastern Europe," the report also indicates, "although trade reports also indicate purchases from Australia and EEC intervention stocks". In other words, Russia has been chipping discreetly at the slopes of the Community's beef "mountain".

Western observers of Russian agriculture, headed by the United States Department of Agriculture and believe that the Soviet Union and its allies face rapidly increasing demand for livestock products of all kinds which they cannot yet meet.

The need for greater output of

Agriculture

Hugh Clayton

farm produce and some of the restrictions on achieving it have been described occasionally by Soviet leaders. Russian grain import figures for 1979 are expected to be at least twice as high as Britain's total production for the year.

The latest detailed examination of Russian agriculture to appear in the West has been published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. "The Soviet leaders are under socio-economic pressure to raise meat production at a rapid rate", it says.

"They have pledged themselves to do so repeatedly, the last time being at the July 1978, plenary session of the central committee of the Communist Party." Grain production is the key to the expansion of Russian food production because the poor quality of pasture, which is exacerbated by the harsh climate in much of the country.

The optimal consumption norms set by the Soviets will not be attained by the mid-80s, the OECD report says, nor is the actual demand for high quality meat and animal products being satisfied at present.

Figures published in the United

States suggest that Russia imported about a tenth of its wheat requirement last year and communist countries in eastern Europe met about a sixth of their demand by import.

The Soviet Union and its east European satellites together bought more than a sixth of their supplies of other grains abroad. Russia grows far more wheat than the United States, which is often assumed to be the leading producer in the world of temperate foodstuffs. It is only the leading exporter, however, and the leading overseas supplier of grain to Russia.

The Soviet move into Afghanistan has provoked calls to restrict grain sales to the country.

Any sudden interruption to the normal flow of international food trade has repercussions in several directions. Two questions are raised for British farmers and traders by the decision of President Carter to curtail sales of grain from the United States.

First, there is the effect on prices. That is impossible to estimate at this early stage. Second, and perhaps much more serious, there is the possibility that allies of the United States may try to impose similar restrictions.

Individual food consumption (per year):

The Soviet Union is an erratic trader with EEC member states. Its presence in the European food market is seldom visible to consumers except for the foreign products such as the dried Russian salmon which appears in British shops.

EEC farmers and other suppliers of agricultural goods to Russia and its satellites will doubtless hope that their businesses will not be affected by political decisions. If there is any interruption, they will hope devoutly that it will be brief.

If trade is allowed to continue, Russia will remain dependent on western agricultural goods for many years. Improvements in Soviet production and distribution have been made in the 1970s, but many difficulties remain.

The compilers of the OECD report say that Russia's shortage of farm machinery of all kinds and that many country roads are still inadequate for rapid distribution of harvested crops.

The report quotes a Russian survey of 1971 which stated that one combine harvester should be available for every 100 hectares (about 250 acres) of grain sowings.

In view of past and planned slow progress, it is unlikely that this will be achieved even by 1985, the report says.

"On the whole the supply of energy and machines is still insufficient and uneven", it continues.

Prospects for Soviet Agricultural Production (OECD) (Stationary Office, £2.90).

UK USSR

Meat* .. 95 57

Grain products .. 74 140

Fish .. 8 18

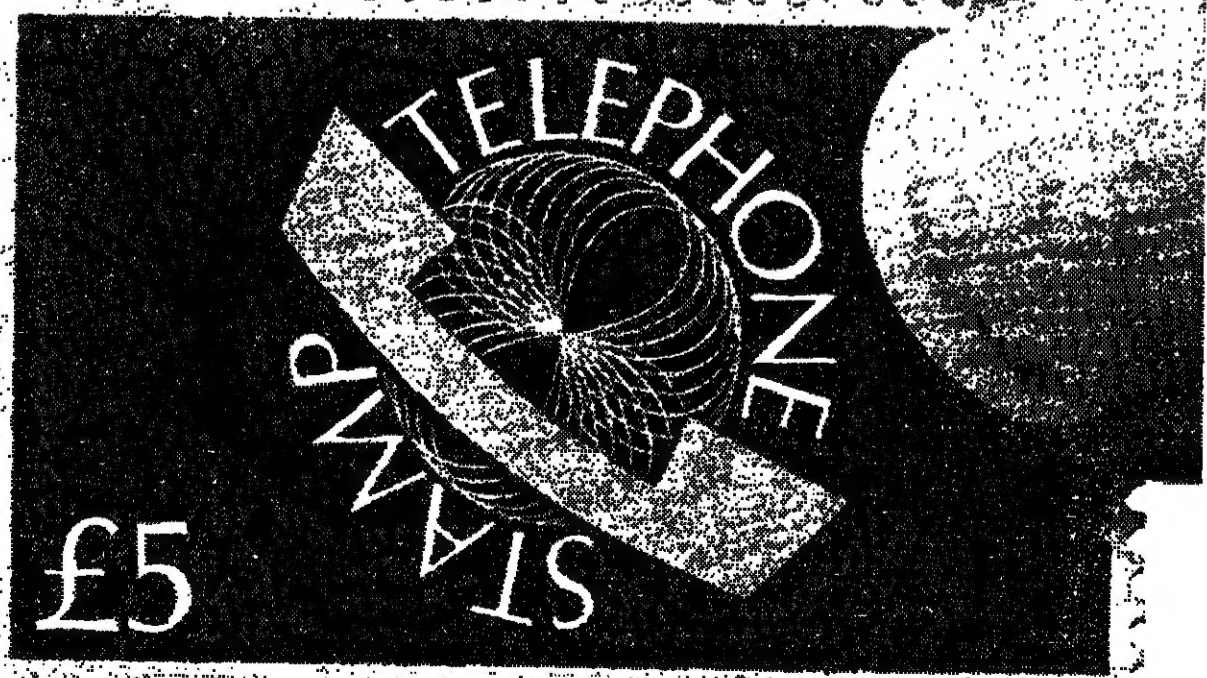
Sugar .. 50 42

Potatoes .. 100 122

* Includes animal fats.

Sources: MAFF, OECD.

A few of these could fill the bill.



Buy our new £5 telephone stamps regularly from your local Post Office and you could save enough for your next bill before it arrives. Or if you prefer you can still save with our £1 stamps.

Post Office Telecommunications

WEST EUROPE Distribution problems kill two Paris Sunday newspapers

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Jan 6

Two Sunday newspapers, *Le Figaro Dimanche* and *France-Soir*, appeared for the last time today, only a few months after they were launched. This proves once again that whatever they are based on Sunday mornings, Frenchmen, unlike their British counterparts, do not read newspapers. They are, in fact, statistics prove, far less voracious consumers of newsprint in any case than their neighbours on the other side of the Channel.

One reason is that newspapers are not delivered on their doorsteps, either on Sunday or on any other day. And even if they have the courage to go out and buy one on Sundays, with half the kiosks and newspaper shops closed, this can be quite a painstaking operation.

Another reason is that the choice, until recently, was extremely limited. Only two newspapers were available. These were, the semi-popular *Journal du Dimanche*, owned by the Hachette group, and separated from its parent organ, *France-Soir*, which was owned by the press magnate, acquired control of the latter four years ago; and the unashamedly sensational *France-Dimanche*, a rather pale French version of the *News of the World*.

Here then, some newspaper publishers felt, was a vast potential market ready to be tapped. *Le Figaro Dimanche*, launched last October, has a circulation of about 60,000. As for *France-Soir*, which has achieved the creditable score of 100,000 copies after only four months, but both lagged far behind the *Journal du Dimanche*, which has been going for 20 years and has a circulation of about 1,000,000.

Le Figaro Dimanche announced today that it was abandoning publication because of "production difficulties and an inadequate system of distribution on Sundays".

As for *France-Soir*, which was being wound up because the claims put forward by its editorial staff were said to be "incompatible with the economic situation". But the real grounds for both newspapers' disappearance are the same.

Before Christmas, the management of *France-Soir* told the joint works committee that it wanted to couple the entertainment and sports pages of the

newspaper with those of *France-Soir*. In order to achieve a better operation of both titles, an overwhelming majority of the editorial staff of *France-Soir* rejected the move on the ground that "seven pages of the daily are going to be incorporated in the Sunday without any financial or moral compensation".

The National Union of Journalists and other journalists' unions demanded a meeting with M. Hersant and condemned what they described as "another attack on the pluralism of the press".

M. Hersant, who has centralized the production of the three Paris daily newspapers he controls at his ultra-modern computerized plant in Saint-Denis, just outside Paris, was reported to be planning to couple several pages of *Le Figaro Dimanche* and of *France-Soir* into a new Sunday paper, *Le Figaro-Soir*.

Already, most of the inside pages of the independent right-wing newspaper *L'Aurore*, which he directs in all but name, are the same as those of *Le Figaro*. On Friday, for the first time on its front page, which alone gave *L'Aurore* its distinctive character, it carried an article which also appeared on the same day in *Le Figaro*.

It is this disturbing trend which is just as strong if not stronger in the French provincial press that prompts many critics of M. Hersant to say that he has preserved only a semblance of pluralism in the publication of the 1944 Ordinance on the Press.

By contrast with the difficulties of the Sunday Press, a number of daily newspapers have successfully branched out in the publication of weekend supplements sold with their Saturday editions. The most successful are *Le Figaro Magazine*, a well-produced and profusely illustrated glossy publication which in three months has topped the 100,000 mark; and *Le Monde Dimanche* which has increased its sales on Saturday by 67 per cent. The independent left-wing *Le Matin* paved the way last June by abandoning its daily edition for a Sunday supplement.

Whatever the staff and distribution problems of the Sunday press, it would seem that Frenchmen's reading habits were satisfied with these supplements and that the market shows signs of becoming saturated.

Pope visits boys in detention

Rome, Jan 6.—The Pope spent the whole afternoon today with some 60 inmates at a juvenile detention centre in Rome. He hummed to their guitar tunes, ate snacks with them, told them stories of love and hope and prayed with them.

The boys at the Casal del Marmo facility, all between ages of 14 and 18, prepared for weeks for the papal visit. They gave the Pope a mosaic portrait of the Black Madonna of Cesio chow.

The parents of the boys, many of them in tears, applauded as the Pope accepted the gift, an enameled mosaic work on a copper plate and mounted on wood.

The boys, serving time for robberies, muggings and other crimes committed in the Rome area, welcomed the Pope at the institute's chapel.

Responding to their welcome the Pope told the boys: "I have come here today because I love you and have faith in you—in your goodwill, honesty and diligence. When you feel lonely, and sometimes you do feel that nobody cares for you, I want you to know that the Pope is with you and prays for you for the speedy return as responsible members of the society.—AP.

King Juan Carlos praises army chiefs' calm

Madrid, Jan 6.—King Juan Carlos today praised Spain's military chiefs for maintaining discipline in the face of terrorist attacks and cautioned them against attempts by extremists to provoke them.

In a speech marking traditional armed forces festivities, the King said he shared their "most intense sorrow when our companions are vilely assassinated"—a reference to the death of 11 military men last year in terrorist attacks. The severity, discipline and silent suffering of the armed forces were an example for all Spain to follow, he said.

But, in an apparent reference to calls from extreme rightists for the Army to take over power, the King added: "Let no one identify you with his own interests."

The King's discreetly worded speech was warmer in tone than last year when he delivered a sharp reminder to the military chiefs that he expected firm discipline.

Britain in EEC budget initiative

Sir Ian Gilmour, Deputy Foreign Secretary, flew to Rome yesterday on a diplomatic initiative to start negotiations for a refund of Britain's £1,000m EEC budget contribution in February.

His talks start with the Italians because their Prime Minister is the current President of the EEC.

It will be for them to decide whether there is enough support for the calling of a special summit, probably in February, to discuss Britain's demands.

Sir Ian intends to tour the other eight Community capitals over the next week and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will also be involved.

Whitehall now talks less of the "broad balance" required in Britain's contributions, which was the theme of Mrs Thatcher's forceful demands at the Dublin summit.

Instead, officials seeking to soften the approach, now talk of her later remarks to the Commons on "the search for a genuine compromise."

Sir Ian is expected to explain that Britain is ready to accept that the £350m reduction mentioned in Dublin, on the understanding that more Community money should be spent in Britain on such things as regional aid or the coal and steel industries.

However, the French made it clear in Dublin that the £350m reduction was conditional on this being accepted by Britain as a final settlement.

The most unyielding stance against Sir Ian, who will make Paris the last stop on his tour.

AFGHANISTAN Kabul jail opened to free 10,000 detainees

Islamabad, Jan 6.—Afghanistan's new Soviet-installed government today opened the gates of Kabul's main jail, freeing thousands of political prisoners who had been detained by the country's two previous Moscow-backed administrations.

The diplomats, who were invited to the opening, said a queue of cars and people miles long snaked along the main road from Kabul to the Pul-e-Chakri prison, outside the capital's eastern outskirts.

Pul-e-Chakri, built with West German aid as Kabul's main prison, was the site of numerous "executions" carried out by officials of the former governments of President Taraki and his successor, President Amin.

The prison was crammed with an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 prisoners, many of whom had been rounded up by Kabul's secret police on orders from Mr. Amin and his followers.

Its name means "gateway to the sky", but it was frequently referred by Afghans as "gateway to heaven".

The hundreds of Afghans who went to the prison today were trying to find out if missing relatives were inside or still alive after their disappearance from homes and off the streets during night-time raids by secret police squads, the diplomat said.

President Karmal, on taking power, promised to free all political prisoners. He described Mr. Amin as a tyrant who was responsible for the deaths of thousands of Afghans.

The diplomats said Kabul airport had returned to normal following last week's huge airlift of Soviet troops.

Soviet supplies were being landed at airports across the country, particularly Bagram, the main Russian staging post 50 miles north of Kabul, at Shindand air base near Herat close to the Iranian frontier and at Jalalabad.

The Soviet presence in Kabul had been severely reduced, the diplomat said, as the main Russian staging post 50 miles north of Kabul, at Shindand air base near Herat close to the Iranian frontier and at Jalalabad.

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Afghan protest: Demonstrators, mostly Muslims, chanting anti-Soviet slogans at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park, in London yesterday, before marching to the Soviet Embassy. The demonstration, against "Russian imperialism", was called by the Muslim Solidarity Committee of the United Kingdom, which condemned the invasion of Afghanistan and demanded that the Soviet Union withdraw its troops. In a resolution, the committee also condemned the United States and its allies which had used the invasion "as a cover-up for their own crimes" and said that any "puppet" Muslim government making military bases available to the United States would be regarded as making "war against Islam".

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Republicans differ over wisdom of imposing grain embargo on Russia

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Jan 6

Six Republicans seeking their party's presidential nomination met in Iowa last night and jointly attacked President Carter's foreign policy for "weakness and appeasement". But they differed over the wisdom of imposing a grain embargo on Russia.

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Indeed, Mr. Anderson wanted the embargo extended, and said it was strange to hear people calling for strong measures against the Soviet Union and at the same time opposing the most effective measures Mr. Carter has used.

A notable absentee was Mr. Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California, who is in the lead among Republicans in the largest block of delegates to the party nominating convention.

The candidates' success may be measured, in opinion polls, in the next few days. Mr. Dole, for instance, said plaintively at one point that Iowa voters did not seem to be aware of his war record, his achievements in Congress and his candidacy for the vice-presidency with President Ford, in 1976. Those who watched him know now.

The real test will be on January 21, although it is not a very important one in terms of next summer's conventions. In the Democratic caucuses in 1976, chosen went to the "uncommitted" candidates. Mr. Jimmy Carter came second, and his apparent victory over his rivals started his "momentum" towards the presidency.

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lously avoided debating together.

On such an occasion, the candidates could do little more than state their opinions generally on the questions put to them, and endeavour to differentiate themselves from the others. They all tried to impress favourably the voters of Iowa, who will gather in precinct caucuses on January 21, to choose delegates to a state convention which will meet in the spring to select delegates to the party nominating convention.

The candidates' success may be measured, in opinion polls, in the next few days. Mr. Dole, for instance, said plaintively at one point that Iowa voters did not seem to be aware of his war record, his achievements in Congress and his candidacy for the vice-presidency with President Ford, in 1976. Those who watched him know now.

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OVERSEAS

Guerrillas flock in as deadline passes

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Jan 6

By tonight more than 18,300 Patriotic Front guerrillas had gathered at the 16 designated assembly areas around the country as their part of the Lancaster House ceasefire agreement.

Major General John Acland, the British commander of the Commonwealth ceasefire monitoring force, told a press conference tonight that about 5,000 were members of Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe Peoples Revolutionary Army (Zimpr) and the rest belonged to the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zanla), the military wing of Mr. Robert Mugabe's Zanu organization.

There was a huge increase in the number of guerrillas reporting to assembly areas and rendezvous points during the last day of the ceasefire implementation period.

Mr. Nicholas Fenn, the spokesman for Lord Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, said that during the last 24 hours before the midnight deadline on Friday night more than twice the total of the previous six days had come forward to take part in the ceasefire arrangements.

Many others were still arriving at rendezvous points during Saturday even though the deadline for assembling had passed. Although Lord Soames was expected to extend the ceasefire period, the Commonwealth monitoring force was instructed to take in late arrivals.

The last of the 23 rendezvous points where the guerrillas first arrived before being transferred to assembly areas were dismantled only today, more than 24 hours later than they should have been—due to a last-minute increase in the number of guerrilla arrivals.

Although General Acland said it was too early to make an accurate assessment of the operation so far, it is clear it has been an outstanding success. The number of armed guerrillas operating inside the country before the ceasefire started to be implemented was estimated by the Rhodesian security forces at about 16,000-17,000, although the Patriotic Front at one stage claimed a total of 31,000.

Even allowing for the fact that a number of those now in assembly areas may be only "mujibas" (young guerrilla supporters), it is nevertheless clear that the majority of the Patriotic Front forces have agreed to participate in the ceasefire.

However, Mr. Fenn did admit there were still some Patriotic Front forces who were unaccounted for and that some armed units were explicitly refusing to observe the ceasefire. Any guerrilla who has not gone to an assembly area is now considered to be "unlawful" and will be dealt with "by the Governor with the forces under his control".

The first place this means the police, but if the police are unable to cope the Governor can call out the Rhodesian security forces who are supposed to be confined to their camps during the ceasefire period.

The security forces have already been called out on a number of occasions.

Muzorewa doubts: Bishop Abel Muzorewa yesterday cast doubts on the number of guerrillas reported to have emerged from the bush. He said he believed most of the so-called guerrillas were "mujibas" or teenage go-betweens used by the insurgents.

He said the guerrillas had armed the mujibas but had themselves stayed in the bush.

President's murder throws light on feared group's dubious role

Blunders of Seoul intelligence prove more dangerous than any communist plot

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, Jan 6

As the dust begins to settle around the political upheaval in South Korea, it is clear that the assassination of President Park Chung Hee at the hands of his own intelligence chief, has left an embarrassing spotlight on some of the more dubious achievements of the country's much feared secret service the KCIA.

The issue was illustrated by the blunders of the other day when a group of South Korean residents were discussing North Korea's attempts to subvert the South.

"They do not have to," one cynic retorted. "The KCIA is doing it for them."

And there can be little doubt in the minds of many South Koreans that some of the blunders of the KCIA have, in fact, done more harm than any communist plot to subvert the South.

Founded in 1961 after President Park came to power in a military coup, the KCIA is charged with the normal duties of any nation would think necessary to protect itself.

The organization collects and analyses information from abroad. It is responsible for internal security against com-

munist espionage and sabotage. The KCIA is in fact divided into a powerful network of eight operational bureaus.

The first bureau is responsible for administration and training. The second bureau—the "cultural affairs division"—is in charge of internal propaganda and indoctrination. It also censors and supervises

Korean newspapers and radio stations. The third bureau combats communist infiltration.

The fourth, and most feared bureau, is responsible for internal security. The division maintains a myriad of informers in all walks of life—from commercial offices to the world of art. The fifth bureau examines all applications for passports.

Known in intelligence circles as the "dirty tricks" brigade, the sixth bureau is responsible for assassinations, abductions and sabotage.

The seventh division gathers political information from abroad and the eighth bureau is responsible for psychological warfare against North Korea.

A powerful and impressive network on paper, but the agency's record for brutality, political ineptitude and a series of disastrous operational blunders has backfired on South Korea in recent years.

It was just over 12 years ago when the KCIA did South Korea its first disservice. Mounting a clumsy operation in Europe, South Korean agents kidnapped 17 students alleged to be members of a communist spy ring—from West Germany.

At first the authorities in Seoul claimed the students had volunteered to return home. Ignoring strong protests from

individual politicians and political parties now expect? The public wants to know the position of surveillance in this country, what degree of privacy individuals have and what safeguards there are."

Among letters intercepted was one to Mrs. Helen Suzman, the veteran Progressive Federal Party MP, from Mr. Winston Churchill, then Prime Minister of Great Britain. She has accused the Government of misusing its "immense powers" under the 1972 Post Office Amendment Act.

In his latest disclosures, Mr. McGivern claims that Dons also keeps files on such prominent people as the South African mining magnate, Mr. Harry Oppenheimer, who is the principle backer of the Progressive Federal Party, Sir Robert Birtley, former headmaster of Eton and visiting professor at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

"Tiny" Rowlands of Loughborough, Sir Harold Wilson and President

Radio comes of age in Solomons

By Tony Samstag

The twenty-first anniversary of broadcasting in the Solomon Islands passed at the weekend with few of the celebrations that normally attend a coming of age. Mr. Bryce McCreck, the BBC's director of engineering, did, however, send his congratulations, and Mr. Ron Evans, head of broadcast and computer systems planning, sent his greetings along with a special request: "Walkabout 'long Chinatown', a pigskin ditty written by a resident of the Jepar colony just down the road from the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation studios.

The request commemorates the night of January 5, 1959, when Mr. Evans, then on secondment from the BBC to the Colonial Office, went through Chinatown in search of the only electrician on Guadalcanal who could replace a fuse that had blown and cut off the mains current to the opening ceremony.

Mr. Evans spent the last, vital pre-broadcast minutes climbing up an electrical pole in his dinner jacket and cummerbund. The opening ceremony presented almost a year of hot, dusty work. Starting from scratch, Mr. Evans had to build his own studio, erect his own masts and dig a two-mile trench for the cables between the studio and the transmitter building. He had some help, but not much.

"I had to collect the transmitters from the dockside and transport them to the final site," Mr. Evans recalled. "That was no easy task because there was very little heavy plant on the island. When the American forces left they pushed it all into the sea."

One of the transmitters arrived early and had to be stored away; but the white and silver crates and I rescued them just in time."

The studio was the first air-conditioned building on the island. When Mr. Evans ventured out into the tropical heat, the results were often memorable: one of his outside broadcasts was from an island populated entirely by girls at a mission school. The only man was an old caretaker.

Mr. Evans installed two transmitters, one for medium wave serving Guadalcanal and another for the short wave service to the islands. As the BBC puts it, the transmitters "operated with vertical incidence arrays that sent signals straight up to the ionosphere to be bounced down again to fill the 600-mile spread of the Solomon Islands."

Mr. Kim Dae Jung: Korean Central Intelligence Agency planned to assassinate him.

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, Jan 6

Rather to their surprise, opposition politicians in South Africa have discovered Dons under their beds. Until now it has been widely assumed that agents of the Department of National Security (Dons) were concerned with exposing foreign threats to the country.

The disclosures by Mr. Arthur McGivern, aged 36, a former Dons agent who has "defected" to Britain, has changed all that. He has revealed that mail is intercepted and telephones tapped as part of an internal operation to build up dossiers on critics of the Government.

Mr. Harry Schwarz, of the Progressive Federal Party and chief opposition spokesman on defence, said this weekend: "We can't have this continuing. We demand a debate in Parliament and call on Mr. P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, to explain exactly what role Dons played in internal affairs."

"The issue is their actual role," he said. "What must

individual politicians and political parties now expect? The public wants to know the position of surveillance in this country, what degree of privacy individuals have and what safeguards there are."

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Kampuchea refugees flee fighting in camps

From Neil Kelly Bangkok, Jan 6

Khmer Rouge guerrillas today captured an important anti-communist stronghold in western Kampuchea, near the Thai border, after three days of intermittent fighting at refugee camps in the area.

Thai Army officers and international aid workers who were near the fighting said that Mr. Yung Aichwong, the leader of the largest group of "Free Khmer" guerrillas in the border area, had been captured by the Khmer Rouge.

Three Khmer Rouge soldiers and two Free Khmers were killed and at least 30 refugees were wounded in today's fighting which continued for an hour in the area of a refugee camp in Kampuchea opposite the Thai village of Nung Samet.

Unsubstantiated reports say that 200 people were killed and 400 wounded in fighting in the camp on Friday and yesterday.

More than 200,000 refugees are believed to have abandoned the camp and fled to Camp Rebu, a few miles to the south.

About 60 Kampuchean have been fighting in three days of fighting in the Thai refugee camp at Khao I Dang.

In the same period, fighting in Kampuchea forced more than 10,000 refugees into Thailand north of Aranyaprathet.

Disagreements between Free Khmer factions on military collaboration with the Khmer Rouge against the new Vietnam-backed regime was the main reason for the fighting near Yung Samet, One Free Khmer leader, Mr. In Sakkan, has been mounting joint military operations with the Khmer Rouge, but Mr. Yung Aichwong has refused to cooperate with the communists.

Kampuchea will have its first public holiday for a year tomorrow when the first anniversary of the capture of Phnom Penh by Vietnamese backed forces will be celebrated by a parade through the city.

Reuter.

Singapore lifts ban on papers

Kuala Lumpur, Jan 6.—The Singapore Government has withdrawn cancellation notices issued to two Chinese-language newspapers after their proprietors promised to change their editorial policies.

The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser, which had been suspended from publication since the end of 1975, was allowed to resume publication. The other paper, the Singapore Free Press, was also allowed to resume publication.

The Singapore Government said yesterday that the newspapers had agreed to change their editorial policies to conform with the country's laws and regulations.

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Mr. R. Smith, A.V.P. Ltd., 25, St. James's Place, London W1, 01-528 7383

PUBLIC NOTICES

DR. MAREK ROMUALD KARPIŃSKI, son of Dr. Karol Karpiński, born 1928, living in London, is re-announcing his claim to the Polish citizenship. He is a Polish citizen and he is entitled to the Polish passport. He is a Polish citizen and he is entitled to the Polish passport. He is a Polish citizen and he is entitled to the Polish passport.



Tit's illness: President Tito of Yugoslavia entering his doctors to lunch at Brdo castle in Slovenia yesterday after an announcement that he is to be treated by two prominent heart specialists, one from the Soviet Union and one from the United States.

The specialists, Professor Michael Debakey, from Houston (left) and Professor Merat Kaleznyev from Moscow (right) were called in after the disclosure that Mr. Tito is suffering from a blood vessel ailment. They examined him at Brdo where he went yesterday after spending a day in hospital in Ljubljana.

Nigeria trims its military machine

From Alain Bobbio, Agence France-Presse Lagos, Jan 6

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and leading oil producer, is building an efficient military machine by trimming the fat from its once-swollen army and buying a modern arsenal with petroleum earnings.

The Government, which came into civilian hands on October 1, after 13 years of military rule, still believes that it has a military mission: helping maintain peace throughout the continent.

Mr. Iya Abubakar, said after his Defence Minister, said after his recent appointment that "the Nigerian army must become the best army in Africa, not only the best army of Africa but the best in the world."

In a recent interview he said the new administration would

continue to participate in collective security, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity.

This policy was intended to confront "external aggression" and to reach "African goals" in Nigerian foreign policy.

Mr. Abubakar also said that Nigeria would be willing, as a member of the United Nations and the Commonwealth, to participate in specific defence actions.

The Nigerian Army now has about 150,000 men and is the third largest in Africa after Egypt and Ethiopia. It had 230,000 men in 1975.

The cutback in manpower stemmed from a realization by the then-military ruler that the army had become far too large and costly. The growth had come during the Nigerian civil war between 1967 and

1970 when thousands of civilians enlisted, only to remain in uniform after secessionist Biafra was defeated.

General Olusegun Obasanjo, the last military head of state, said that by December, 1978, the army had been reduced by 50,000, leaving 180,000 men. Another 30,000 or so were demobilized during 1979 and the Government expects to be able to reach its goal—an army of 120,000 men—during 1980.

In addition to regular demobilization, there have been purges because of corruption. The army's monthly magazine *Sofa* announced in September that about 100 commissioned and non-commissioned officers had been either demoted or jailed for various offences, notably embezzlement of army funds.

**in the Liverpool at the double
as lesser troops
are frogmarched out**

There was special merit in the performance of Swindon Town, who beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-0 in the first round of the League Cup. Tottenham were worth Road to continue a remarkable season of cup achievements, and Chester, 2-0 winners at Newcastle, were the League Cup. In previous visitors had the League Cup. They had hidden my 50p from the magazine.

Two heavy-weight collisions in the north were of much contrast. At Elland Road of United buckled 4-1 to a much revived Tottenham Forest, but at White Hart Lane, Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United pounded each other with considerable force, but finished unbroken at 1-1.

Reported by the weight of recent evidence, one can say that United had more reason to be satisfied. They beat Tottenham in a third round replay at Old Trafford last season, and again in the League Cup this term. Tottenham forsook their opportunity on the first night of the season, and after Ardiles had publicly conceded defeat, they were forced to lead and put his slight frame and enormous skill in the way of United's attack.

Ardiles, feeling the atmosphere of the day just as receptively as a home-bred player, had a wonderful understanding of the nature of his enthusiasm that he should be among those who believe in the team's success in the defence by helping the team. McQueen and so force the referee to give a penalty from which Tottenham were relieved. United were obviously relieved but were sure of their second half would surely have brought them a goal by the end of the game.

While Ardiles kept running at the United defence, there was a strong hope for Tottenham, but as 3-0-0, Tottenham were 2-0-0.

Icy finger is on Hazell and Rangers

By Geoffrey Green

If statistics and past records are anything to go by Watford should now be out of the FA cup, dumped into the shadows by the new big Rangers. But it was Watford who was the cup and it was Rangers themselves who had their faces rubbed in the heavy, sandur sun of the Watford Road when they lost 2-1 after taking an early lead in six minutes.

Watford fully deserved their surprise win to reach the fourth round of the competition. They recovered splendidly from a fustling start to dominate the opening half with a penalty goal which was certainly a fine looping header from Renton. After the interval, when Rangers mounted a counterbarrage, the Watford defence held firm to undiminished vigour and a sea-found spirit. In the words of

to his manager, Graham Taylor, it was quite a good performance of the match, but not a team.

To achieve a smooth-running side is a complex business, like the delicate adjustments to a ship's trim. The players in the Stms, Harrison and Trade were left out last season from Leicester, Vancouver Whitecaps and Toronto Lynx respectively. This season Steele, the goalkeeper, came from Brighon; Vander streek, from Lincoln, to be followed by Harrison and Trade from Henderson and Bendorson, the midfield organizer, from the United States, and Saturday the biggest transfer, to the same language.

Ironically the losers could boast the best team on the field in Carter. Yet for all the subtle touches and obvious English "class" none of his creative stimulus rubbed off on the colleagues.

One man had a mixed and finally wretched afternoon, and

defence. He began in high fettle, bustling home the Rangers quick opening goal from a rebound after Mill had swerved a free kick against Seel's crossing. Then he took Rostron's how he hooked up against those elusive dribbling was always a thorn to the Londoners. That was a clear penalty which Bolton accepted unhesitatingly.

With half an hour gone Train centred deep from the left, Rostron nodded under the bar and poor Hazell, trying to save, was sent flying into the air. It was probably over the life in any case, but an icy finger was on Hazell this day.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS: D. Woods: D. Shanks, S. Wallace, M. McCremmy, S. Sures, R. Hazell, M. Walsh (subs S. Wick, C. Waddock, C. Allen, A. Currie, G. Hill).

WATFORD: E. Steele: M. Hender-son, S. Harrison, M. Faiching, S. Sims, J. Bolton, D. Booth, L. Blissett, J. Ward, R. Train, W. Rostron. Referee: E. A. Read (Bristol).

As Halifax blow hot, Manchester City blow cold : Malcolm Allison feeling the pinch.

Tottenham survived a tight, uncomfortable 45 minutes and took the lead six minutes into the second half when Ardiles saw an opening from some distance away, and placed his shot in the corner with all the accuracy one now expects from this little perfectionist.

It was a pity he marred his performance by being involved in the turning down of McQueen that led to the equalizing penalty, although

his annoyance at being reprimanded was the culmination of lasting frustration. He had seen Spurs denied three claims of their own, in two of which he was the victim.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: M. Ainslie, C. Brighton, M. Goss, J. Gray, C. Hodge, J. Marshall, T. Sandler, C. White, Subs: J. Pratt, T. Gilman, C. Hordley, M. Wynn.

MANCHESTER UNITED: C. Bailey, J. Nicholson, S. Hounson, S. McGuire, C. Williams, M. Hargreaves, S. Charlton, J. Williams, J. Jordan, S. McGarry, M. Thomas.

Referee: P. Parrinello (Enfield)

Harlow earn replay in last minute

Uphill fight too much for Yeovil

So much for the mean-minded suggestion by Barnsley's player-manager, Allan Clarke, that non-league clubs should be barred from the FA Cup. In the third round on Saturday, David struck yet another blow against Goliath. Darlow Town, the Essex part-timers from the Isthmian League, who are celebrating their centenary season, had their finest hour

There was to be no giant-killing act when Yeovil met Norwich in an FA Cup third round tie at Huish on Saturday. Alas for the part-time players of the Alliance Premier League, the first division side were simply too good and the final score, of 3-0 to Norwich, was about right.

Yeovil never looked likely to

When holding Leicester City of the second division to a 1-1 draw away from home.

An excellent goal two minutes before the interval by the Leicester Harlow a lucrative replay at the Sportscentre tomorrow, and further slice of glory this season.

It was an explosive, fairytale ending to a season, usually regarded as typical of cup football in that a Harlow goal at that moment could not have been more unlikely. They had defended handsomely and showed no enthusiasm throughout but had not seriously threatened Leicester's goal in the second half.

Perhaps Leicester were lulled by a false sense of security for they were drawn unfield and

emulate their famous predecessors who beat first division Sunderland in the first round of the FA Cup. They were well against lesser clubs in the Football League since then, they have never again beaten a first division side. On Saturday, Norwich were the first team that mustered all round. They were certainly fitter, had better ideas and technical nique, and when there was a man to man physical confrontation, that of Yeovil man usually came off the worst.

Two Yeovil players were injured. Gold limped off after a tackle by Ryan and was replaced in midfield by Williams, and the goalkeeper, Brown, played on after being kicked on the head by Robson. Two of Norwich's goals were scored after this accident.

produced their dramatic strike which made the most of him, and the space ahead of him, working in from the wing and finding Prosser with his inside pass. Prosser, with his socks down to his ankles, spun like a top to his right, and then, with a kick which the ball might challenge, and calmly did the ball into the net as Wallington came out.

The story of this match was that when Hartool took one clear shot, and when Leicester pursued numerous opportunities, he put the game beyond Hartool's reach. Henderson, the butt of the Albert Street crowd, was the chief.

Kitson, Hartool's diminutive goalkeeper, was especially over-worked at their late goal for it was

dent and it is likely that a lesser sized goalkeeper might have saved the goal.

They were both scored in the last few minutes of the match when it was beginning to look as if Ipswich's well earned and well taken goal was finally heading for the safe. Although a cup top is never safe when only one goal has been scored, Yeovil rarely concede goals. Ipswich's goalkeeper, Northcote, was free to concede when necessary and Yeovil's two strikers were always outnumbered.

The game invariably penetrated within shooting distance of Keelan's goal and, when they did, his experience made him the best of chances. The best of these fell to the Ipswich players, but it was the strong, ordered **LUP** the Norwich

front after 25 minutes. He
leebly flapped at a wayward back-
leader from his own defender.
back, sending the ball to Smith
who released it to Henderson.
where Henderson did his only
deed of the afternoon by
sluicing through a crowd of
howlers to score from 10 yards.
That shot has been regarded by
some of the underdogs as
leicestser were like wasps with no
inertia, continually buzzing around
Barrow's goal without being caught.
Barrow's goal without being caught.
Barrow helped their own hopes
y showing a cheerful defiance
and riding their luck.

A goalmouth scramble following a corner led to Norwich's second goal as Robert Hoods headed over Parker's scrambling hands. Two minutes later, almost on the stroke of full-time, Fashanu scored a long clearance by Keelan and neatly probed the ball under the advancing Parker.

Five minutes of extra time were played (there had been several stoppages) before it ended to Parker's relief as he escaped a foul and eventually secured a consolation goal. Keelan, however, surely to divert a fierce headered shot from Gary

YEOVIL TOWN: B. Parker; G. Williams; J. Payne; B. Jones; D. Smith; S. Morgan; M. Hart;

MARLOW TOWN: P. Kilson; R. Rickenden, F. Flack, A. Gough, V. Clarke; P. Adams (sub. R. Austin); Mackenzie, M. Mann, N. Prosser; T. Owen, G. Griffiths.
REFEREE: A. Robinson / Waterloo.
Sitter.

J. Scott, C. Green, T. Finnigan
M. Loid sub, M. Williams,
NORWICH CITY: K. Keolan: K
Bond, C. Downs, I. Ryan, R. Brown
A. Powell, P. Mendham, K. Robson
J. Fashanu, G. Paddon, M. Peter
sub B. Jones,
Referee: R. Challis (Tonbridge).

Melville joins select band in the Putter

[illegible]

Life beats off to win

[illegible]

Müller gains another downhill win

Today picked up his second victory with a Cup downhill win of the season. The 25-year-old skier had a brilliant performance over the 1.5-kilometre course to gain the victory in just six weeks before the World Championships.

"The conditions were perfect for me," the 25-year-old said. "The clear skies and the wind helped me on the course. I finished with a time of 50.0 metres, in a time of 32.56 sec. Herbert Plankl, of Austria, was second with a time of 1:10.44 and Erik Haaker, of Norway, was third with a time of 1:54.44. The downhill is dead-end, and I had an angry protest during pre-race discussions, saying that the Praetorius course was too easy and suited to women than men. The coaches agreed that the two courses were not for men, but that skill and less of the flat-out, for-leather approach demanded more downhill.

MEN'S DOWNHILL: 1 P.
Switzerland, 7 min. 53.6 sec.
Plaza 27.3
54.44 J. H. Weinhaber (AUT)
54.50 G. Grissmann (AUT)
54.56 W. Walcher (AUT)
54.70 W. Walcher (AUT)
55.08 T. Trygwanov (BUL)
55.19 W. Walcher (AUT)
55.31 British placing: 26. X.

Bobsled

WORLD CUP STANINGS:
Srinnaad, Sweden, 73 pla.
Kraizl, Yugoslavia, 30 equ.
Miller, 20, Russia, 30 equ.
Sweden, 10, Poland, 40.
7. A. Wenzi, Liechtenstein, 30.
Moher, (USA), 31; G. Grissmann,
13 P. Luecher (Switzerland).
Heuter.

Third division

[illegible]

Scottish premier division

[illegible]

Haydock Park

[illegible]

Tennis

[illegible]

Newport	13	8	5	49	33	24
Torquay	14	4	7	44	30	33
Bridford	15	4	8	50	25	30
Aldershot						

[illegible]

Scottish second division

[illegible]

Squash rackets

Squash rackets

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: 5 Semifinal record: Kent 3, Surrey 2.

Hockey

INDOOR: Midland County Championship (A) Division 1: Group A: Shropshire 7, Warwickshire 6; Worcesterhire 6, Northamptonshire 5; Derbyshire 5, Leicestershire 5. Division 2: Warwickshire 10, Worcesterhire 13, Shropshire 11, Nottinghamshire 8, Warwickshire 9, Worcesterhire 9, Derbyshire 7, Group B: Staffordshire 9, Northamptonshire 3, Derbyshire 10, Worcesterhire 10, Leicestershire 10, Shropshire 9, Warwickshire 9. Division 3: Northamptonshire 11, Leicester 10, Staffordshire 10, Leicestershire 10, Warwickshire 10, Shropshire 10, Derbyshire 10. Final: Nottinghamshire 7, Leicester 10.

exp: 1, K. Eberhardt (W. Ger)
2 min 10.5: 2, M. Melcalk
3:16.26: 3, D. Mackie (GB) 2

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By car to the Continent



Competition between the operators of cross-Channel ferries is fiercer than ever. This report looks at some of the new routes and services that will be on offer during 1980; it also advises the motorist on preparations for the trip and on where to stay for the first (and last) night on the other side

In 1979 about half a million British cars, motor caravans and dormobiles crossed the Channel to the Continent, which means that some million and a half people chose a motoring holiday in Europe. It is a figure that has stabilized over the past two years and the early guesses for 1980 suggest a similar level.

It will depend almost entirely on the general economic climate—the level of prices, linked to the strength of the pound—

during the petrol shortage in Britain, for if petrol was difficult to find here motorists hardly wanted to risk being stranded abroad.

In the event, the scare was largely unfounded and cross-Channel traffic revived. But it needs only one tremor from the Middle East for the fears to start up again. Meanwhile, in spite of the dramatic rise in petrol prices at home over the past year, most continental countries are still well ahead in this respect

and prices generally in

Europe are significantly higher than ours.

So the travel trade is being very cautious about 1980, hardly daring to venture a prediction. Townsend Thoresen, one of the major car ferry companies, has increased its car-carrying capacity by 50 per cent for the coming season, though more in the hope of winning customers from rival operators than in the expectation of a big upsurge in business overall.

Sealink, the British Rail car ferry subsidiary, has esti-

mated that only 4 per cent of British car owners take holidays in northern and central France this year and that the distance factor will increase the popularity of the Benelux countries. For a few thousand British motorists in 1980 there will be a more ambitious target—the 1,700-mile trip to Moscow for the Olympic Games which start on July 19. The Royal Automobile Club has planned its continental motoring schedule for 1980 on the expectation that those motorists who do venture abroad will probably travel shorter distances and turn days for the journey: once Moscow itself is served by increasingly to self-catering holidays, either camping and caravanning or renting flats.

So the RAC is offering more holidays in northern and central France this year and that the distance factor will increase the popularity of the Benelux countries. For a few thousand British motorists in 1980 there will be a more ambitious target—the 1,700-mile trip to Moscow for the Olympic Games which start on July 19. The Royal Automobile Club has planned its continental motoring schedule for 1980 on the expectation that those motorists who do venture abroad will probably travel shorter distances and turn days for the journey: once Moscow itself is served by increasingly to self-catering holidays, either camping and caravanning or renting flats.

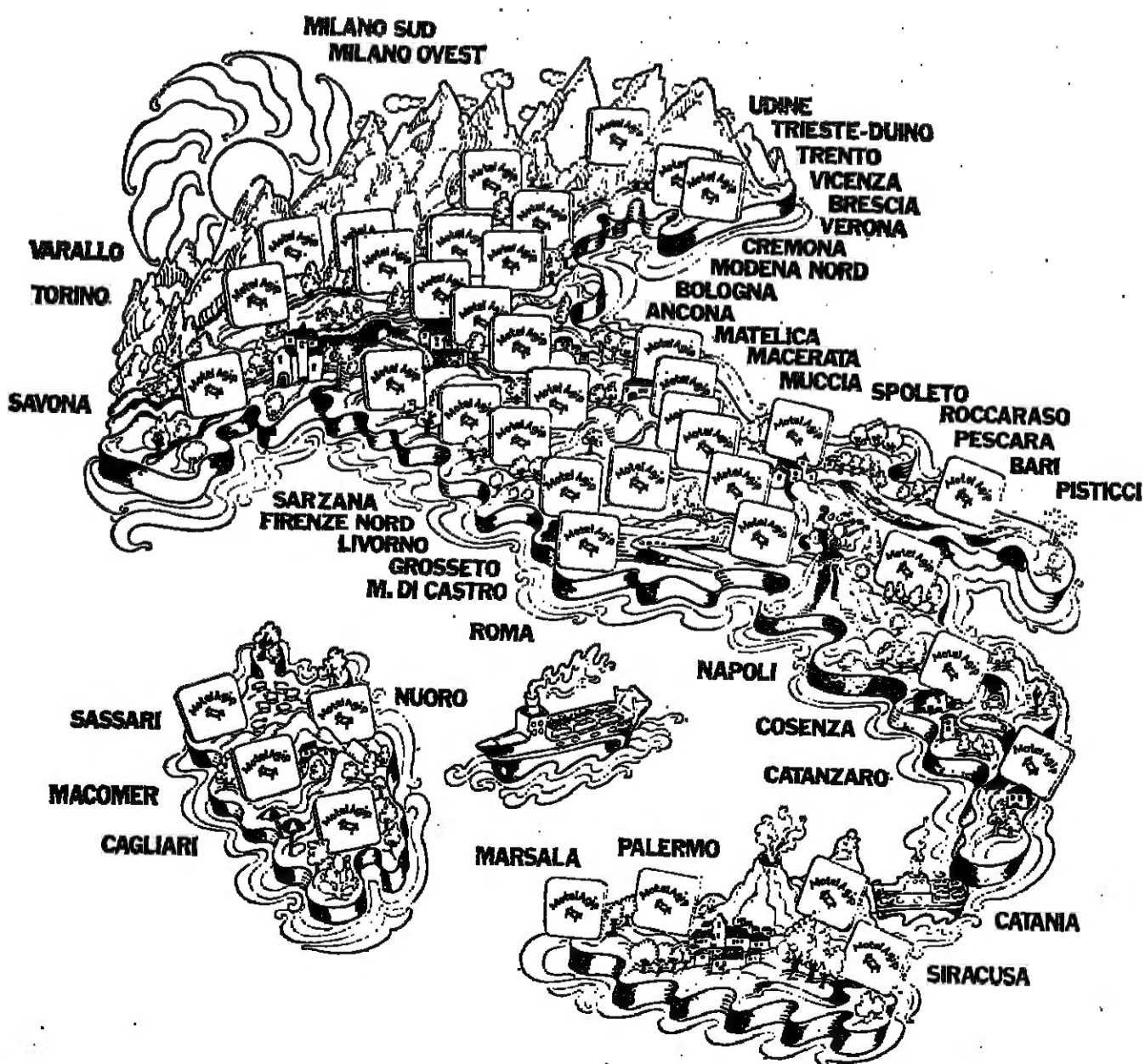
hotels and there can be delays at frontiers. Of several possible routes, the most direct is through East Germany and Poland, entering the Soviet Union near Brest and proceeding to Moscow via Smolensk. One good thing is that petrol is likely to be cheaper in Eastern Europe and though the whole is rudimentary, the AA men were impressed by the quality of the main arteries. It is to be hoped that the necessary to keep to specific roads which puts London to shame.

But the roads are constantly under repair, which is one argument for not driving at night; the other is the difficulty of reading signs in the Russian alphabet. Petrol stations are few and far between in Russia, as are public telephones: and since service outlets (where they exist) are most unlikely to carry spares for a British car, it is essential to take them with you. Despite the economic climate, there is much to be said for taking the car abroad—the freedom to get off the beaten track and to

explore at your own pace. And although driving on the right and dealing with strange traffic laws may sound daunting, most British motorists get through without difficulty. But it is worth buying peace of mind by subscribing to a breakdown service and taking out adequate insurance both against mishaps with the car and what can be frighteningly high medical bills.

Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

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Ferry passengers fare well for France

This year will be an unusual, and indeed historic season for the cross-Channel holidaymaker. For not only is there an unprecedented choice of routes and services to Europe from Newcastle right round to Plymouth, and a choice of modes from conventional ship through hovercraft to hydrofoil; but—and this is the real news—there is for the first time for many years a real choice of fares on the short-sea routes. Dover to Calais and Boulogne, after the breakdown last autumn of the traditional price-fixing agreement under which the ferry operators charged the same for tickets interchangeable between their different ships.

Just who is responsible for this blessed event seems to be somewhat in doubt; British Rail Sealink, the consortium of railway ferry operators, and Townsend Thoresen, the leading private enterprise group, both claim credit for it. What is not in doubt is that the result for travellers will be a beneficial one. As David Kirby, managing director of Sealink, put it last month: "The Channel may still be the world's most expensive stretch of water, but in 1980 it will be getting less so."

As an earnest of his own company's intentions, Sealink announced an unprecedented fare of £20 return for a car and two people to France, barely more than a fifth of the normal peak-season rate. The trouble is that in order to enjoy it, the outward journey will have to be made next month—not everybody's idea of the time for a continental holiday.

Lesser bargains will be available on Sealink ships at other times, though: £25 off on sailings between January and March and October and December; while a £10 discount will be available on any summer bookings made before the end of this month. P & O, the most recent addition to short-sea ferry operators, is determined to use the emancipated market to entrench its own position with the addition of a new ferry, more frequent sailings, and fares which it claims undercut those of its rivals. These range from £26 for a car and driver or £44 for a family of four between Dover and Boulogne, or £32.50 and £57 for the same on the longer route between Southampton and Le Havre.

Townsend Thoresen, which is bringing three new big, fast ships of radical design into service this year, is determined to hold its place as the leading car ferry operator. It is going over to a new tariff that offers a range of reduced fares, not only between peak and off-peak months, but between peak and off-peak sailings within each season. Prices start at £7 a head—£1.60 less than last year—and under the new tariff the more people travelling with the car, the smaller the fare per head. A family of four with a medium-sized car will save £20 on the equivalent fare last year. With the choice of hovercraft as well, the message

for the 1980 holiday-maker across the Channel is undoubtedly, "it pays to shop around"—not only for straight ferry crossings but for the multitude of packages the ferry operators are also offering in their efforts to win traffic: day-trips, mini-holidays, inclusive ferry and camping, caravan, farm-house, or hotel tours in France and farther afield. And while Sealink's January discount is an incentive to book now for the summer it could pay to wait, for the battle will last all year, and with something like 30 per cent more capacity on the Channel to carry an expected 10 per cent to 15 per cent more traffic, there could be further reductions to come as the months go by.

A word of warning though: all the operators seem to agree that the peak summer season—the week-ends of late July and early August—will still be booked up well in advance, so do not expect bargain offers for those nearer the time. Indeed, for peak travel, book early remains a wise rule even in this remarkable year.

The advent of new ships and new operators means that there will be a wider variety, not only of fares but also of types of service. The new Townsend Thoresen ships, built in Germany at a cost of £51m, will, at 8,000 tons be bigger than anything yet seen on the Channel, offering a wider range than hitherto in shopping, recreation, and restaurant facilities.

More important to many passengers, perhaps, will be the time-saving offered by the higher speed, giving a crossing of 75 minutes against the traditional 90, and the double-deck entry and exit, cutting loading and discharge times by up to 30 minutes.

Olau-Line of Copenhagen announced last month that it too will be competing in the cross-Channel price war. By the end of May its recently formed subsidiary, Dunstons, is determined to use the emancipated market to entrench its own position with the addition of a new ferry, more frequent sailings, and fares which it claims undercut those of its rivals. These range from £26 for a car and driver or £44 for a family of four between Dover and Boulogne, or £32.50 and £57 for the same on the longer route between Southampton and Le Havre.

The two hovercraft services, British Rail Seaspeed from Dover to Boulogne and Hoverlloyd from Ramsgate to Calais, hope to maintain their 30 per cent share of the short sea market with frequent sailings giving a crossing time of only 35 to 40 minutes. A small cloud overhangs these two concerns: Hoverlloyd is for sale because of the financial difficulties of its Swedish owners, the Brostrom group; while Seaspeed suffers from the serious unreliability of its French-built N500, brought into service for the first time last year in an effort by France to match Britain's lead in hovercraft. But Seaspeed's two "stretched" Mounthatten craft, performing exceptionally well, and popularity of both these routes for the traveller in a hurry should be main-

tained for the time being. The further one gets from the Channel, generally speaking, the longer the crossing, the higher the fare, and the more cruise-like the voyage becomes, with plenty of cabins where overnight crossings are involved. The most distant of these categories is the 19-hour crossing, from Ramsgate to Esbjerg in Denmark, a 19-hour crossing; Prins Ferries, from Harwich to Hamburg, a 20-hour crossing; North Sea Ferries Hull to Rotterdam and Zeebrugge, 15 hours; and Brimham Ferries, Plymouth to Roscoff, seven hours, and to Santander, 24 hours.

Between these longer routes and the Channel are the medium routes which many people prefer both for the pleasure of the sea crossing and because it provides a more direct route from origin to destination. Some of these routes have been going since before the war but many have emerged only since the Channel tunnel project was cancelled in 1964. Besides the car ferry routes mentioned above, there are jetties for passengers only between the Thames and Zeebrugge, and Brighton and Dieppe, with onward road or rail services to inland cities. Now the Channel tunnel is raising its head again, but this time in the form of a rail-only tunnel that should fruitfully complement the car ferries rather than suffocate their expansion as the last one threatened to do. All in all, an exciting prospect, both for cross-Channel tourists and ferry operators.

Southampton-Le Havre and Cherbourg; Weymouth-Cherbourg; Portsmouth-Cherbourg; Le Havre/St. Malo; Newhaven-Dieppe; Dover-Zeebrugge and Oostend; Ramsgate-Zeebrugge; Sheerness-Vlissingen, Harwich-Hook, and Felixstowe-Zeebrugge.

Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

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Reservations: Contact your Travel Agent, Motoring Organisation or Hoverlloyd, Ramsgate, Kent. Tel: 0843 55555; London 01-499 9481; Manchester 061-228 1453; Birmingham 021-236 2185. In person: 8 Berkeley Square, London W.1.



مكازم الرحيل

In the boot, under the bonnet and inside the cubby-hole:
in these two articles Peter Wayman recommends
careful paperwork before the trip, a few mechanical
precautions and some useful roadside reading

How to get out of having to get under

Given the difficulties of language, the metric system and having to drive on the other side of the road, most Britons who take their cars on the Continent cope surprisingly well and the crises that do occur can largely be averted by careful planning.

Have the car thoroughly checked and serviced before leaving. Many garages offer a special holiday service and this can save the embarrassment of being stranded in the middle of a foreign land with a broken fan belt or radiator hose. Tyres, including the spare, should be examined for wear—bald tyres, apart from being dangerous, are just as much an offence abroad as they are here—and pressures adjusted for the load being carried. Make sure that luggage on a roof rack is properly secured and neatly packed. Badly arranged roof luggage can slow the car and increase fuel consumption, besides making the vehicle vulnerable to strong cross winds. Use the roof as far as possible for the lighter, flatter items, putting the largest at the bottom, and cover everything with a sheet of canvas or leathercloth.

Headlamp beams have to be adjusted for driving on the Continent: in most European countries it is an offence to have the lights dipping to the left. In many cases the motorist can make the conversion himself, with either adhesive masking tape or clip-on adaptors. But if in doubt consult a garage or the light manufacturer. France, by the way, no longer requires yellow headlights.

Spare parts can be expensive abroad and difficult to obtain and it is sensible to take a selection with you. Garages and the motoring organizations offer kits of the commonly used spares for hire and to these items might be added extra headlamp bulbs (a legal requirement in some countries) and an emergency windscreen.

An essential when driving abroad is a red warning triangle. Most continental countries demand that it should be set up on the road if the car is immobilized through an accident or breakdown. A first aid kit is

also desirable: in Austria it is obligatory. The GB nationality plate must be displayed at the back of the car (and on a caravan or trailer) and failure to do so may result in a fine.

While hoping it will not happen, every motorist must consider the possibility that he may need emergency breakdown assistance, even to the point of having his car taken back to Britain. He may also incur medical expenses for treatment of illness or injury and could have luggage or money stolen.

To meet these unfortunate circumstances, the motoring organizations offer comprehensive foreign touring services. The AA's Star scheme, which covers a car and four people for a month for about £80, even provides hotel expenses if the motorist returns home to find his home occupied by squatters. The RAC's Cordon Bleu is basically a local repairs and vehicle recovery service which can be supplemented by medical, personal effects and legal aid insurance.

Essential documents are the driving licence and vehicle registration form. Some countries, including Spain and those in the Eastern block, require an international driving permit

which can be obtained from the motoring organizations or the British Embassy. A passport, driving licence and a pass-port-size photograph. Families intending to visit Austria and Switzerland should note that the minimum age for driving a car is 18 (compared with 17 in Britain), while France and Portugal require drivers in the first year after passing their test to restrict their speed to 90km an hour (56mph) and to carry a "90" disc on the vehicle.

On insurance, the basic rule is to ensure adequate coverage for all countries to be visited and the insurance company or broker will advise on this. The international motor insurance certificate—better known as the green card—is no longer a legal requirement in the European Community but it does secure fuller cover. It is still essential in most countries outside the Community.

For Spain insurance should be extended to include a bail bond. In the event of an accident, the Spanish authorities may impound the car and detain the driver pending trial and the bond is a guarantee that a cash deposit (usually up to £1,500) will be paid to the court as security for bail.

Bonds are issued by motor insurers and should be attached to a green card. A motorist intending to take a minibus on the Continent should be warned that European Community law regards a vehicle with 10 or more seats as a commercial vehicle. This means that the driver must be over 21, have had at least a year's driving experience and keep a log of driving hours on a tachograph fitted to the vehicle (and the number of hours he may drive is limited by law). The tachograph provision is not widely known and there have been several cases of British minibuses being turned back from continental ports. Advice on this should be obtained from the Department of Transport.

Most things, notably petrol, cost the motorist more on the Continent, though the steep price rises in Britain over the past 12 months have narrowed the gap a little. So there is a good case for a fairly full tank before leaving Britain—not too full or the petrol could overflow during a bumpy crossing—and a lockable filler cap to prevent theft. Several countries in Eastern Europe offer petrol price concessions through coupons which can be bought at frontiers or, in some cases, from the relevant tourist offices in Britain. Italy, at times of writing, has withdrawn coupons.

The final, but not the least, preparation concerns route planning. The motorist should equip himself with good—and up-to-date—motoring maps for the areas he will visit, as well as a plan of the main towns. One of the advantages of driving on the Continent is the extensive motorway network, which means that surprisingly big distances can be covered comfortably in a day's driving. But motorways in France and Italy carry toll charges and these can mount up over a long journey.

Allow plenty of time for leaving and entering continental ports. The heavy build-up of traffic during the holiday season means delays and it seems that these ports reserve the peak periods for carrying out road works. It is estimated that some 80 per cent of accidents involving British cars abroad happen within 50 miles of the Channel coast and they are largely attributed to motorists hurrying to make up lost time.

If you make a bad choice in the middle of a holiday the damage is repairable. You can move on next day. But the first night starts a holiday well, or over-shadows it with gloom, and the last night sets the seal on success or marks the end of a disappointing holiday. So it pays not only to research your ultimate destination and chosen holiday area, but also to know something about the Channel ports and their immediate hinterland, where motorists, who do not believe in an uninterrupted chase to the car or a last-minute dash for the ferry can start and finish their holidays in proper style.

First some personal recommendations for those who use hotels in or around the ports:

In Calais the Meurice and Sauvage are the best of the town's hotels, but those going to the motorway by the St-Omer road might well prefer to press on the extra 17 kilometres to Arras where the Grand Hotel Clément adds good cuisine to comfort.

In Boulogne the Marmin et Liégoise or the Plage in town are satisfactory, but for those with money to spare the restful Manoir or seafaring Côte d'Opale in Le Touquet or the Atlantic in Wimereux are recommended.

Dunkirk has four comfortable but standardized modern hotels. In Dieppe the Univers is a personal favourite among the selection along the seashore, a haven of period charm. The Windsor can also be recommended, and for those who would rather be just outside the town, there is the quiet La Terrasse in the chimes at Varengeville.

In Le Havre I have usually preferred night crossings to and from this port, but the city's best hotel is the Grand Hotel de Bordeaux, while the comparatively inexpensive Monaco in rue de Paris is

of Montgou park and beautifully equipped. Le Havre is admirably served for restaurants too. There can be few experiences more satisfying than watching other people's ferry boats come and go beneath the cliffs of Ste-Adresse while one stretches one's legs comfortably in the blue and mirrored elegance of the Nice-Havrais, preferably after *suprême de barbe* and *crêpes flambées*. A similarly splendid view and good food at slightly less cost can also be had at Yves Page just down the road.

In Roscoff the best dining places are also very French, but comparatively inexpensive. The first thing the tourist meets crossing to the town from the ferry terminal is the Hamiot snack bar at the bottom of rue Faidherbe. There is a carefree and convivial atmosphere you can have excellent fish soup, mussels, pigs' trotters and all manner of less costly French specialties. An even greater delight is the tiny pink restaurant, La Charlotte, at 11 rue du Doyen. A deliciously refined four courses cost only 38 francs at lunchtime.

Even cheaper, satisfactory restaurants are available in Dieppe. The best is Le Sully on Quai Henri IV, right beside the Sealink terminal. The danger is that its 34 franc menu may spoil you for the rest of your stay in France. The country does not offer so many places that can equal it for value. Yet the hinterland to Dieppe shelters another real gem, Le Prieuré de Bailleul-Boc at St-Ouen-sous-Bailly, off the Envermeu to Blangy road. There the five courses set meal at 42 francs is as perfect as you will find anywhere in France.

St-Malo, which is not a port one should leave without exploring thoroughly, has a wealth of good restaurants, among them the Auberge de l'Hermine, the Duchesse Anne and the

inexpensive Chez Gilles. The preeminent one is to the south through the suburb of St-Servan-the Métairie du Beau Regard, where M. Gauthier prepares a rich and elaborate cuisine in classic French style.

Cherbourg offers good value at Le Vanban or the pretty little Toque Blanche. L'Aiguade, where a bustling woman called Giselle works single-handed wonders as receptionist, waitress and *robousseuse*, is strictly for carnivores, specializing in large lumps of tender meat grilled in front of wood fires. In Roscoff my family have eaten well, and cheaply, at Chez Janie.

If you do not stop for a meal, it may well be that you will want to buy food, either for the road or to take home, to savour your holiday for that week or so longer with souvenir delicacies.

No port is better served for shops than Boulogne. It has two hypermarkets, one with ample car parking (Champion at the Centre Commercial de la Liège), which is within walking distance of both the port and the town centre. It is also blessed with one of the five best cheese shops in France—Philippe Olivier at 43-45 rue Thiers. I never pass Boulogne without getting at least the Camembert, his Point d'Évêque and if possible his ultra-creamy 23 franc specialty, the St Philippe.

Boulogne also boasts one of the top 10 cake shops of France, André Lugand at 9 Grande Rue. Anyone who leaves without cakes from Lugand is not making the most of a French holiday. Add to these that Lugand's near neighbour is an excellent charcuterie, Derrien, who can provide hot or cold delicacies for picnics, and you will understand why I drive through Boulogne even when sailing by way of Calais.

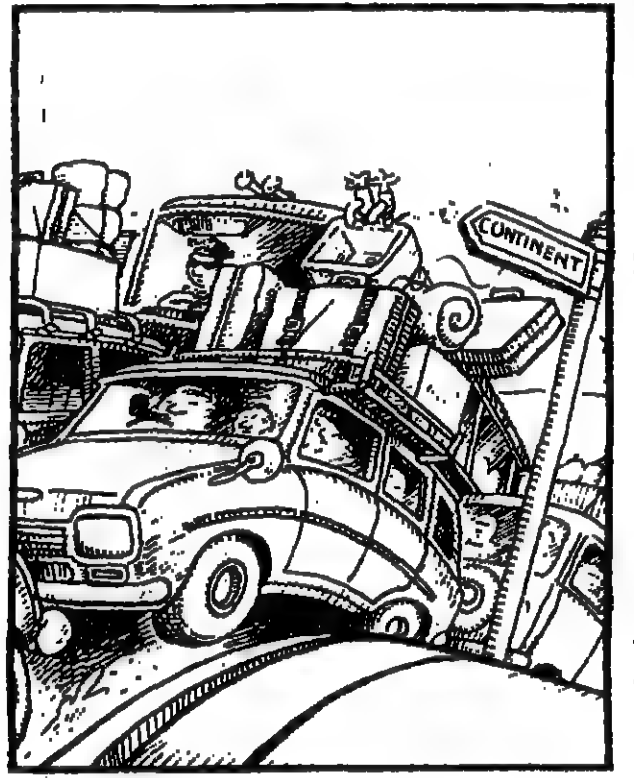
Le Havre is Boulogne's closest rival (cakes and sweets from Houël, 182 rue de Paris, cheese from Cheinisse in the central market hall, and *charcuterie* and *plats préparés* from the superb shop of M. Lefèvre at 127 rue Victor Hugo, all within easy reach of ample parking on Place Gambetta). Dieppe runs close third, with cheese from Olivier père (the Boulogne man's father), 16 rue St Jacques, *charcuterie* from Euriel at 22 Grande Rue, and cakes and sweets from Ratel or Delahaye both in Grande Rue, also. Perhaps Dieppe should be promoted to equal second because it has bakers and a Saturday market that excel even those that Boulogne and Le Havre can offer.

The most convenient hypermarkets for last-minute shopping on the way out are Champion (Boulogne) and Continent (Cherbourg), the biggest and best are those of the Auchan chain (in Le Havre, through the Jenner tunnel toward Montgou and bear left into rue du Bois au Coq, and outside Boulogne, off the St-Omer road).

Besides a full allowance of wine (the biggest saving is to be made by buying the maximum permissible amount of special offer table wine at under four francs a bottle rather than by patronizing the duty-free shops), there are numerous other purchases a motorist might bring home to help to offset the cost of his holiday. Beers for example, offer considerable savings.

Other best buys are kitchenware, glasses, cookery utensils, camping equipment and leisure furniture, frozen or fresh seafood (to be kept cold in freezer bags), some cosmetic and toiletry ranges, children's clothes, women's fashions and French porcelain.

Robin Young
Consumer
Affairs Correspondent



A clear map can smooth the journey

A clear map and a reliable guidebook can do much to smooth the journey of the motorist abroad. The prime need is for relevant information succinctly presented: a couple of sentences about buying petrol can be more to the point than pages of eulogizing over a Mediterranean sunset.

Maps and guides should be consulted well before setting off. There is no need to plan the holiday like a military exercise but it does no harm to work out a route, if only to get some idea of distance. Calais to Geneva, for instance, is more than twice as far as London to Glasgow.

There are plenty of continental motorways to speed the journey but in several countries they carry tolls and they are not the best way to explore the countryside. By combining the resources of the map and guide, it should be possible to work out the best possible

itinerary—doing the most in the most comfort.

When choosing maps there are two things to look for—they must be easy to read and they must be up to date. Clarity is to some extent in the eye of the beholder but the aim of every motoring map must be to provide a certain sort of information as simply as possible. It should be nearer a diagram than an Ordnance Survey.

Maps need frequent revision to keep abreast of new routes. An extra piece of motorway here or a new river crossing there can knock minutes, if not hours, off a journey. By the same token, town plans must always endeavour to carry the latest on one-way systems and traffic-free zones. A map published even two years ago may by now be almost useless.

This means that paper maps, which for obvious economic reasons can be

brought up to date more often, are usually a better proposition than a hard-backed atlas. They are also cheaper and more convenient to handle, since they can be folded as required and cover a larger area at a time than the pages of a book. Less durable they may be but since they will probably have to be replaced before long, that hardly matters.

The motoring maps published by the Michelin tyre company have long been regarded as among the best on offer and they certainly meet both the basic tests, scoring highly on clarity and accuracy. Four 16 miles to the inch maps cover western Europe, and selected areas—namely the regions of France—are treated on a much larger scale.

George Philip, which designs excellent motoring maps of Britain for the Royal Automobile Club, has two series of continental touring maps. The 16in series, with blue covers, concentrates on western Europe, while the 12in set in red covers extends to southern Scandinavia, Greece and Yugoslavia.

The Automobile Association has a new series of European tourist maps for 1980, 16 miles to the inch and using the "concertina" folding system for easy handling. The AA also publishes books of town plans and planning maps which give through routes across Europe from the main Channel ports.

It must be emphasized that despite the best efforts of publishers, maps are always in danger of being superseded by the opening of new routes or changes to existing ones. For the latest information it is sensible to contact either the motoring organizations or the tourist offices in Britain of the countries concerned.

Moving from maps to guides, a handy source of hard information about driving abroad is the Automobile Association's *Motoring in Western Europe*. This chunky paperback gives details of some 9,000 approved and classified hotels and garages, arranged by country, as well as advice about insurance, banking, laws, medical treatment, drink driving laws and many other topics.

It can be supplemented by three AA pamphlets, on Scandinavia, South-east Europe (Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria,

Greece and Turkey) and North-east Europe (East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet Union). A special booklet on the Soviet Union is being prepared for those intending to drive to the Moscow Olympics. Other AA publications are *Camping and Caravaning in Europe*, which lists 5,000 campsites in 19 countries, and *Guesthouses, Farmhouses and Inns in Europe*, with the emphasis on reasonable accommodation at low cost.

The RAC's *Continental Handbook* covers 18 European countries, with lists of appointed hotels and garages, a 48-page section of town plans and a pull-out chart of international road signs. The RAC also offers a *Motorist's Concise Guide to Continental Travel*, which packs a lot of information, from voltages to toll roads, in fewer than 100 pages, and a guide to hotels and restaurants, which are individually rated. Though Michelin's assessments are sometimes controversial, the British motorist abroad can hardly do better for gastronomic guidance. The other Michelin's are the green tourist guides, compact, readable, and pleasingly laid out. There is a book for each country of Western Europe, except France, which is split into regions.

Although not specifically intended for motorists, the Anglo-American *Podar* guides will fit happily into any glove box. They combine information of a purely practical kind (restaurants, places of interest, and so on) with often perceptive essays on history, culture and national character. Attractively illustrated, the guides are brought up to date every year and they cover most European countries.

Were there a competition for cramming the greatest amount of information into the tightest possible space it would undoubtedly be won by the Blue Guides, which are encyclopaedic in their descriptions of towns, villages and buildings. Areas covered on the Continent include Northern Italy, the Rome area, Spain, Greece and the Adriatic coast of Yugoslavia.

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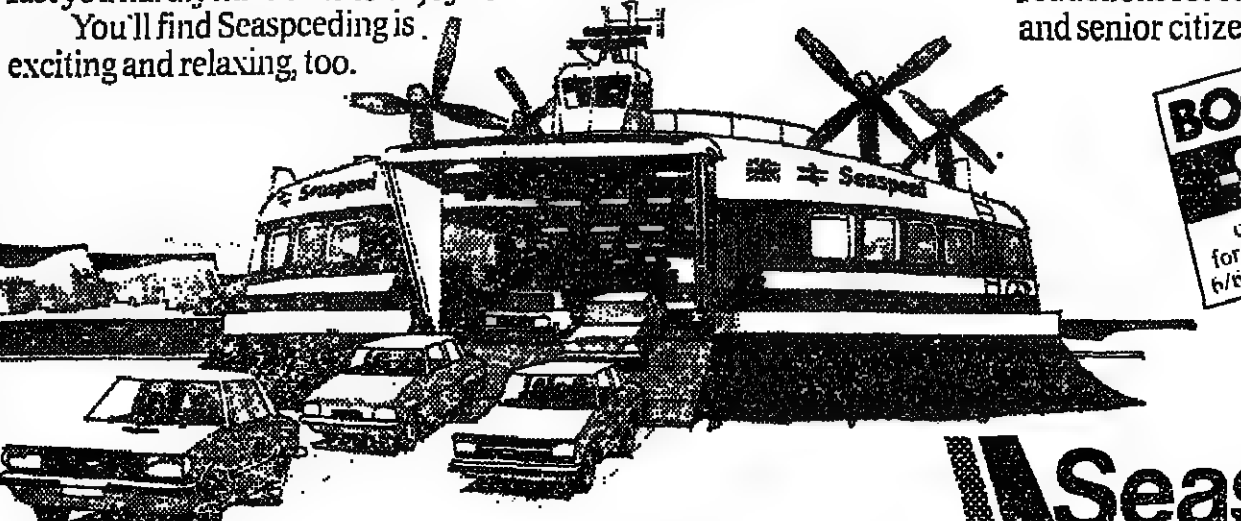
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The anniversaries of 1980



Lytton Strachey, Sir Jacob Epstein, Elizabeth Fry, General Douglas MacArthur and Grock

From the first day of Lucrezia Borgia to the last of Colonel Blood

- JANUARY**
- 3 Michael Thomas Sadler, social reformer and economist, born 1780
- 5 Nikolay Karlovich Medtner, Russian composer, born 1880
- 10 Manuel Azuaga, President of the Spanish Republic (1936-39), born 1880
- 26 Douglas MacArthur, General of the United States army, born 1880
- 29 John Freeman, poet and critic, born 1880
- FEBRUARY**
- 3 Felix Fourdrain, French composer, born 1880
- 6 Arthur Greenwood, politician, born 1880
- 14 Sir William Blackstone, legal writer and judge, died 1780
- 17 Alvaro Obregón, President of Mexico (1920-24), born 1880
- 23 Isaac Foot, politician, born 1880
- MARCH**
- 1 Giles Lytton Strachey, writer, born 1880
- 2 Ivar Kreuger, Swedish creator of international match trust, born 1880
- 10 Frances Trollope, novelist, born 1780
- 12 William Clowes, co-founder Primitive Methodism, born 1780
- 17 Marcus Aurelius, Roman emperor (161-80), died 180
- 18 François Duret de la Rochefoucauld, French writer, died 1680
- Thomas Chalmers, Scottish theologian and philanthropist, born 1780
- Laurence Edward Grace Oates, Antarctic explorer, born 1880
- 20 Emanuele d'Astorge, Italian composer, born 1880
- 21 Hans Hofmann, American painter, born 1880
- APRIL**
- 17 Sir Leonard Woolley, archaeologist, born 1880
- 18 Lucrezia Borgia, Italian noblewoman, daughter of Pope Alexander VI, and legendary poisoner, born 1480
- 25 Michel Fokine, choreographer, born 1880
- 29 Saint Catherine of Siena, died 1380
- MAY**
- 3 Thomas Tusser, agricultural writer and poet, died 1580
- 5 Otto Dibelius, German Protestant bishop, born 1880
- 8 Gustave Flaubert, French novelist, died 1880
- 21 Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, born 1780
- 22 Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, South African financier, born 1880
- 29 Oswald Spengler, German philosopher, born 1880
- 30 James Robinson Planché, dramatist, died 1880
- JUNE**
- 1 Karl von Clausewitz, Prussian general and military theorist, born 1780
- 2 The Gordon riots began in London; during the ensuing week, 280 people were killed, 1780
- 3 Sir Ernest Gowers, civil servant, and author of *Plain Words*, born 1880
- 3 Henry Hall, Covenanter, died 1680
- William Hone, writer and bookseller, born 1780
- 6 William Thomas Cosgrave, President of the Irish Free State (1922-32), born 1880
- 7 John Brougham, actor and dramatist, died 1880
- JULY**
- Robert Ralke opened his first Sunday school, 1780
- 5 Pierre Egan, the younger, novelist, died 1880
- 10 Humphrey Chetham, founder of the hospital and library bearing his name, baptized 1580
- 12 Tom Taylor, dramatist and editor of *Punch*, died 1880
- 24 Ernest Bloch, Swiss composer, born 1880
- 26 John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, courtier and poet, died 1680
- AUGUST**
- 7 Abraham Colfe, divine and founder of school bearing his name, born 1580
- 13 Mary Reid Anderson, women's labour organizer, born 1880
- 19 Andrea Palladio, Italian architect, died 1580
- 24 John Taylor (the "Water Poet"), born 1580
- Thomas (Colonel) Blood, adventurer, died 1680
- 26 Guillaume Apollinaire, French poet, born 1880
- 29 Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, French painter, born 1780
- SEPTEMBER**
- 2 Hugh Richard Lawrie (Dick) Sheppard, vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, advocate of pacifism, born 1880
- 3 William Henry (Will) Dyson, cartoonist and etcher, born 1880
- 9 Henry Marten, a signatory of Charles I's death warrant, died 1680
- 12 Henry Louis Mencken, American writer, born 1880
- 16 Alfred Noyes, poet, born 1880
- 17 Francisco Gómez de Quevedo y Villegas, Spanish poet, born 1580
- 20 Ildebrando Pizzetti, Italian composer, born 1880
- 22 Dame Christabel Pankhurst, co-founder of the Women's Social and Political Union, born 1880
- 25 Samuel Butler, satirist, died 1680
- 26 Francis Drake landed at Plymouth, having spent three years circumnavigating the world, 1580
- OCTOBER**
- 5 Jacques Offenbach, French composer, died 1880
- 10 Marie Stopes, botanist and advocate of birth control, born 1880
- 23 *The Trumpet-Major*, by Thomas Hardy, published 1880
- 25 John of Salisbury, Bishop of Chartres, died 1180
- NOVEMBER**
- 10 Sir Jacob Epstein, sculptor, born 1880
- 17 Saint Kilda, founder of Whitty's monastery, Yorkshire, died 680
- 20 Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice, died 1880
- 22 Konradin Kreutzer, German conductor and composer, born 1780
- 25 Leonard Woolf, writer and publisher, born 1880
- 26 *Endymion*, by Benjamin Disraeli, published 1880
- 30 Richard Henry Tawney, economist, born 1880
- DECEMBER**
- 7 Sir Peter Lely, painter, died 1680
- 20 John Wilson Croker, politician and essayist, born 1780
- 22 George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans), novelist, died 1880
- 31 George C. Marshall, General of the US Army and statesman, born 1880

Jack Lonsdale

A package deal could still be hammered out...

Will Iran's hostages be expelled?

The Iranians agree that the hostages are not the culprits, and there is no question of the death penalty

How far does the Iranian revolution provide a model for a new Islamic order throughout the Muslim world? Perhaps no one is more interested in this question than Sayyid Sadig al Mahdi, the Sudanese Muslim leader, who for years has been campaigning for such an order, a system that would "marry the principles and values of Islam to democracy and a modern state".

Sayyid Sadig has just returned from a visit to Iran, which he undertook with a threefold purpose: to canvas the idea of an Arab-Iranian agreement, to seek clarifications about the new Iranian constitution, and to take up the issue of the American hostages.

At first reluctant to involve himself in this last point, he was persuaded by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Dr Amadou Mahtar Mbow, that he might be able to contribute to a solution to the crisis, as someone who is widely respected in both the Muslim and western worlds.

While in Iran he met Ayatollah Khomeini (whom he had already got to know in exile before the revolution), Ayatollah Shariat-Madari, and senior members of both the Government and the Revolutionary Council. He has come back convinced that "no violence is on the cards against the hostages". He believes that either they will be tried and then expelled, or there will be a package deal "leading to the satisfaction of the legitimate demands of the Iranian people".

He would favour the latter solution, because he believes it might open the way to a better relationship between Iran and the United States. But, he says, "the Iranians agree that those persons are not the culprits", and he was definitely told that there was no question of the death penalty being applied to them.

He found, he says, "a clear tendency to respond positively to the idea of regarding the whole matter in a wider context, rather than the limited context of the person of the hostages". He feels that the way it has been discussed simply in terms of law is

inadequate, because there is also an issue of justice involved.

"On law, Iran is isolated, but on the issue of justice—the fact that the Shah was a very ugly despot, that he expropriated a lot of the wealth of the country, that the United States, through various agencies had helped him and cooperated with him and therefore was in a measure an accomplice in the relationship with him—those aspects do call for a kind of rectification as far as Iran is concerned".

The Security Council resolution, he argues, is not helpful because it is "one-sided": "It considered the issue of law, but skipped that of justice". What is required, in his view, is a package "in which the justifiable grievances of Iran will be answered".

On the American side this would involve three things: First, "a kind of action or statement that investigates the Shah's role and condemns him as a despot"; secondly, a process to "repatriate" the Shah's funds, so that he should not seem to have got away with his ill-gotten gains; and thirdly an investigation of past American involvement in Iran's internal affairs.

By making a clean breast of its past role, he believes, America could open the way to a "new chastened relationship".

These ideas, he says, were welcomed by his Iranian interlocutors. Even Khomeini himself and other reputed hardliners promised to study them.

Mr Enoch Powell was eyed by the Government front bench as warily as usual when on October he rose in response to the Chancellor's announcement of the total abolition of exchange controls after ex-chancellor Healey had denounced it as "reckless and doctrinaire".

"Is the Chancellor aware," asked the ex-financial secretary, "that I envy him the opportunity and the privilege of announcing a step that will strengthen the economy of this country and help to restore our national pride and confidence in our currency?"

Quite caught off balance the Chancellor gasped "I am grateful... I am indeed grateful..."

Gratified astonishment arose from Mr Powell's hitherto critical scepticism of the new Government's policies—an attitude they put down to carping jealousy of his former party colleagues. For have not the essentials of Powellism been enthroned in place of Heathism in the Thatcher administration?

Indeed is not Powellism personified in Mr Biffen, now Chief Secretary, who one of the roughest Powellite critics of 1972-74? And have not Sir Geoffrey and Sir Keith been manifestly converted to Mr Powell's analysis of the cause and cure of inflation, the angry repudiation of which by Mr Heath and his Chancellor Barber they applauded in 1972-74.

Do they not all use Powellian phrases about money supply and not allowing public expenditure to outstrip the growth of GNP? Did they not brave the outcry over the "cuts" pre-

I asked Sayyid Sadig whether he shared the disillusionment with the general character of the Iranian revolution which many Arabs and Muslims have expressed. He replied that he still felt it had a number of lasting achievements to its credit. It had knocked out a despotic regime. It had got rid of what he calls "the alienation of ideology, politics and wealth". And it had brought government to "a populist level, where the example of leadership is one of austerity, frugality and simplicity".

In all these respects it had given "an example which cannot be taken away". But "what is very serious and has made me ponder is the question of the constitution. I thought Iran would institutionalize the principles and values of Islam to democracy and a modern state. The first draft constitution provided the basis for that—a democratic regime bound by Islamic principles. The role of the religious leaders was to be one of guarding against religious deviation, through a sort of constitutional court containing five religious people confirmed in office by the elected representatives of the people, plus three judges from the country's courts and three professors from the universities: it would have been very wide-based."

But all this has now been changed in favour of the *Wilayat al-faqih* (government of the jurist, or Islamic law). This concept is only acceptable in Shia Islam, and even within Shia Islam it is advocated by

Khomeini as his personal doctrine. It concentrates all powers in the hands of this *faqih*. It is going to lead to the supremacy of the clergy."

This point concerns Sayyid Sadig very deeply, because he had hoped Iran would provide a kind of example of Islamic democracy. He was anxious to know why the draft constitution had been so drastically revised. Khomeini himself simply replied that the constitution had been studied and passed by the majority of the people, and therefore it had come to stay.

"But others welcomed further observations on it, and showed a genuine interest in their experiment being regarded as a growth point for the rest of the Muslim world." I asked for a summary of the arguments which had been used to change the original text, and I was promised that I will get it in writing. But my first impression is that the change makes for a narrower appeal, and I don't expect this particular point to be acceptable outside Shia Islam."

In Sayyid Sadig's view there can no longer be a *faqih* in the sense of one whose knowledge of the law gives him a general competence to govern. "We need an institutional form, combining those who have knowledge of the texts and those with other competences." Nor can he accept that any one of the four traditional schools of Islamic jurisprudence be specifically enshrined in the constitution (as the Jaafari school is in that of Iran).

He believes that a new interpretation of the law is needed, drawing on all four schools for inspiration but taking account also of modern circumstances, and formulated by an elected legislative assembly. This approach is certainly radically different from Khomeini's, yet Sayyid Sadig believes there is common ground between them.

"I agree with him that Islam should govern all aspects of government and society. He agrees with me that the people's will must ultimately decide since the constitution says that the *faqih* must have the support of the people, and the constitution itself was submitted to popular vote."

Edward Mortimer

Are we all Powellites now?

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Do they not all use Powellian phrases about money supply and not allowing public expenditure to outstrip the growth of GNP? Did they not brave the outcry over the "cuts" pre-

cisely to stop PSBR, the true fuel of inflationary finance identified by Mr Powell in unpopular speeches from 1966 onwards, when he was hammering it to £1,000m. Do they not repudiate a policy of income tax cuts, decline to intervene in industrial disputes, slash subsidies, prune NEB, BNO and other state expenditures?

On the rolling back of the public sector? Do not his old Powell speeches now trip from front bench lips?

And is not the Government fighting against that very plundering of our economy by the CAP which Mr Powell foretold as early as 1969—and waving his very proposition that the Right depend more on us than we on them? To update King Edward VII, aren't we all Powellites nowadays?

Not in Mr Powell's opinion. His commendation of Sir Geoffrey Howe in October actually undermined his other, more critical judgment of Conservative performance since May. As he sees it, that single totally right and radical decision ("individuals should be free to enter or send their property abroad") has been the most successful Powellite criticism of 1972-74.

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On the rolling back of the public sector? Do not his old Powell speeches now trip from front bench lips?

And is not the Government fighting against that very plundering of our economy by the CAP which Mr Powell foretold as early as 1969—and waving his very proposition that the Right depend more on us than we on them? To update King Edward VII, aren't we all Powellites nowadays?

Not in Mr Powell's opinion. His commendation of Sir Geoffrey Howe in October actually undermined his other, more critical judgment of Conservative performance since May. As he sees it, that single totally right and radical decision ("individuals should be free to enter or send their property abroad") has been the most successful Powellite criticism of 1972-74.

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The seventh day of a new decade is precisely the time when you feel that you will scream if you have to read just one more article looking back on the last ten years or forward to the next. Scream away, then. Everyone else has had his two cents' worth and it would be a superhuman act of forbearance to deny myself.

For me, the Seventies began much as they ended. I was in New York on behalf of *The Times*, but then as one of a two-man bureau, whereas now I am on my own. (Already we have had for our first broad generalization: the Seventies were a decade of belt-tightening.)

I had arrived here at the very end of 1969 and one of my first out-of-town assignments was on a project ambitious in conception, though a bit disappointing in its fulfilment. It was the time of anti-war protest on university campuses and I was sent to visit three of them, deep in the heart of middle America, to see whether the tumult had reached even into this traditionally conservative part of the country.

I found that it had, much to the distress of the taxpayers who helped finance these institutions of higher learning. In an Oklahoma newspaper, I

came across a headline above a leading article which succinctly summarized its message: "The first thing a kid should learn at college is to abide by the rules and ignore commies."

A student at the University of Iowa explained why he and his friends were not obeying those precepts: "Disobedience is not the way we have been taught to do things. But we scream and nobody responds, so the only way to get a response is to become violent."

The violence claimed six victims: four white students at Kent State University in Ohio and two black ones at Jackson State College in Mississippi. A student at the University of Nebraska told me how the Kent State killings had affected him and his fellow "people thought: 'Here am I, just Joe Blow, a regular student, and these four kids who were shot were just Joe Blows, regular students. That was what brought it home to students here.'"

It was one of my first encounters with American students, to whom I have always enjoyed talking. They are welcoming and articulate, seldom at a loss for cogent answers. Re-reading my reports of that

mid-West trip, though, I am struck by how the students seemed ready to discuss the mechanics of their own protest and the intricacies of campus politics than the more difficult question of the rights and wrongs of the Vietnam war itself. That is why the articles ultimately failed to illuminate much, though they do provide early evidence for identifying the Seventies as a decade of narcissism.

Another story I covered at about the same time went to the heart of the Vietnam dilemma in a direct and painful way. It was the court martial of Lieutenant Martin Calley, accused and convicted of ordering the massacre of 22 civilians (earlier estimates had put the figure at more than 100) at the Vietnamese village of My Lai.

There was much sympathy for Lieutenant Calley as a victim of the circumstances of war and its brutalizing effects. There was also revision that a nation proudly founded on humanitarian principles should find itself in a position where such atrocities were carried out in its name.

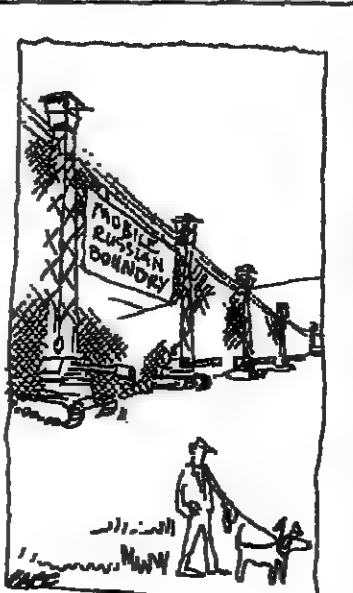
I suspect that it was this sentiment more than the campus protests which persuaded President Nixon and his advisers that

they had to extricate the United States from the Vietnam involvement at virtually any cost. The cost, in terms of last lives and prestige, was tremendous and is still being paid.

Looking back, it is apparent that I tried to have it all ways in my attempt to find the root of what I called (and I am embarrassed to come across the phrase) "the present national sickness". In an article written not long after my return from the Midwest, I suggested that the root was not in Vietnam or on college campuses, but in the cases of corruption which were then and are still now being uncovered regularly in local and Federal government.

I suppose I could quite easily make the case that this observation was an incredibly clairvoyant forecast of the Watergate scandal, which provided the decade's most powerful political drama. I do not, however, claim credit for special prescience and I am not sure that I now agree with my 1970 view on the significance of corruption.

There are two opposing views on Watergate. One is that it symbolized the terrible decay of America's moral standards and the other that its exposure was a tribute to the strength



of the nation's democratic processes.

I tend towards the latter interpretation. Corruption exists everywhere, but the mechanism for uncovering it is much more effective in America than anywhere else—notably more so than in Britain, where it took

20 years for the Anthony Blunt affair to surface.

I find that one of the important differences between America and Britain is in muck-raking journalism. The Americans have always prized their muck-rakers, and did so especially in the years immediately after the Watergate affair, while in Britain it is fashionable still to sniff disapprovingly at them as an evil, not even a necessary one.

(As a point of interest, because I know readers love this sort of thing, the use of the phrase "muck-raking" to describe investigative journalism was initiated by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906. It is in fact a distortion of the episode of the man with the muck-rake in *Pilgrim's Progress*. Bunyan's muck-raker who preferred to continue raking muck rather than regard the celestial light, was meant to represent the money-obsessed businessman—the very person who is often the target of the muck-raker in today's sense.)

Psychologists—and they were one of the growth professions of the Seventies—would say that my view that Watergate was a good thing makes me an optimist. As such, I am probably quite unqualified to review

the decade a task for which a hearty pessimism appears an important prerequisite.

I have not watched or read any summings-up of the seventies which has not concluded that they were the very worst of times. One of the many television reviews even suggested that they were worse than the Sixties, which saw the assassination of a President, of a civil rights leader and of a Vietnam war hero.

What is the view of the Seventies? The Eighties: Everyone's characterization of the forthcoming ten years as "the dangerous decade" has been seized upon with enthusiasm.

New York City tried, in its impatient way, to make that prediction come true in the decade's first 24 hours, when it managed to accumulate 12 murders—including one over an argument about which television channel to watch for the turn of the year festivities. This was more than twice the daily murder rate for 1979, which was itself a record.

Experts terrify us with their somber predictions about the appalling prospects for 10 years of famine, inflation, war, energy scarcity, violence, lawlessness

and a broad collapse of the social fabric. (Sorry, confused clichés: the social structure will collapse, while the fabric will be torn or will disintegrate.)

All of that will certainly come about, but with any luck most of us will fail to notice. I prefer the more tangible predictions of Joe Fomalea, a man of whom you will not have heard but who enjoys some celebrity here as a maker of fashionable footwear.

Asked by a fashion writer what he thought would be the dominant theme of the Eighties, he replied: "Without a doubt, roller skates. I attach colourful, ball-bearing wheels to my patented run-there sneakers."

So we roll through the Eighties in our run-there sneakers (syn shoes), we shall try, as in the Seventies, to carve out a pleasant life for ourselves and for those we live and work with, by-passing the obstacles which will inevitably be thrown into our paths. Only in December, 1989, shall we discover, through the utterances of our sages, what a truly dreadful decade it will have been.

Michael Leapman



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AN HONEST MAN'S ANGER

The Republican candidates who have attacked Mr Carter's decision to veto a seventeen-million-ton grain delivery to the Soviet Union are not thereby strengthening their claim to presidential calibre. Had Mr Carter taken no action, in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, or contented himself with purely diplomatic moves, they would have been the first to condemn him. They do not dissent from his view that the invasion is a major breach of international law, which cannot be allowed to go unpunished. They should therefore applaud him for taking a step which is measured and non-violent, but unquestionably painful for the Soviet Union and likely to increase the problems faced by its leaders.

The obvious explanation of the criticism is that Mr Carter's rivals hope to pick up votes from the Iowa farmers. But since Mr Carter has promised to buy in the undeveloped grain at market prices, the farmers should not suffer any direct loss, and in any case it is obviously the President's duty to put national security and world peace before the marginal economic interest of a particular group of voters.

American voters in general, if not those of Iowa in particular, are likely to give him credit for this.

Perhaps a more plausible explanation of the line taken by Messrs Bush, Baker and Connally (and of Senator Kennedy's ill-judged remarks about the Shah last month) is simply that they feel an overwhelming desire to criticize Mr Carter for something. The remarkable fact is that since the seizure of the American embassy in Tehran on November 4 his conduct of affairs has been very hard to fault. Even those who blame the existence

of the double crisis in Iran and Afghanistan partly on lack of effective American leadership over the past three years are constrained to admit that since the crisis started Mr Carter has shown hitherto unsuspected qualities. The starry-eyed idealist who took office in 1977 had long since given way to what looked like a weak and indecisive pragmatist, but he in turn has now emerged from the hard school of experience as a president with a realistic appraisal of his powers and responsibilities, ready to use the former and to discharge the latter. Much of the world must now be somewhat surprised to find itself greatly hoping for his re-election, so much more sure-footed in handling crisis does he look than any of his opponents. His anger has the strength of his honesty.

Certainly the early 1980s look increasingly unlikely to be a period in which the world can afford to have yet another inexperienced American president learning his job by trial and error. The dangers and difficulties faced by the occupant of the White House during the next few years are likely to be enormous. That is not, as some believe, because a desperately weakened West is now faced by an overwhelmingly strong Soviet Union rushing from success to success. The danger is rather that the Soviet leaders will seek to escape the consequences of weakness and failure through a series of increasingly risky adventures.

The Soviet economic system is weak. That can hardly be questioned. Soviet industrial output is less than that of Japan, and less than half of that of either Western Europe or the United States. Soviet citizens have to put up with a far lower standard of

living than their Western counterparts as well as an oppressive system of government, and many of them are well aware of this. The political system is therefore strong only in the sense of being effectively repressive, not in the sense of commanding the spontaneous loyalty of the people. Obedience can be assumed only so long as the repressive apparatus is seen to be firmly in control.

Spontaneous revolt at the centre seems unlikely. The danger comes from the fringes. A successful liberalization in Czechoslovakia might have generated uncontrollable pressures within Russia (or the Ukraine). Therefore it had to be stamped on. Similarly, a successful Muslim revolt against the Soviet-backed communist regime in Afghanistan might inspire a revival of Muslim nationalism within the Soviet Union itself. The risk, one must suppose, was too high to be taken. How much less, then, can Moscow afford failure now that fifty thousand Soviet troops have been committed to the Afghan adventure.

Failure in the sense of actual expulsion from the country is perhaps unlikely. But failure in the sense of inability to end the fighting, of a need to commit an even larger proportion of Soviet military and economic resources to holding down an intractable and inhospitable country—that can easily be imagined. At that point the alternative to admitting failure may seem to be an extension of the fight into neighbouring countries (which could easily be blamed for continued Afghan resistance) or the creation of a diversion elsewhere. Only very carefully judged Western responses may avert a chain reaction of disaster.

THE MODEST HOPES AT STORMONT

The Parliament Buildings at Stormont, Belfast, where Mr Humphrey Atkins meets Ulster politicians today, are not Lancaster House; and the high expectations which have come to be associated with the second do not surround the first. Mr Atkins opening his conference is not at all in the position of Lord Carrington when he opened his. There has been no Commonwealth meeting (in this case, more appropriately, no European meeting) to get an agreed line. The "front-line presidents"—Mr Charles Haughey and, if back-seat presidents were to be included, Mr Carter—have not been squared in advance. The Provisional IRA's commanders, unlike those of the Patriotic Front, have not been invited to graduate from the status of criminals, terrorists, guerrillas or freedom-fighters to that of trusted leaders of a faction. They will not be there.

Nor will the makings of a comprehensive settlement be there. Mr Atkins has set himself a much more modest ambition. As he puts it, the conference is a means of identifying the highest possible level of agreement on the transfer of responsibilities to locally elected representatives in the province—enough agreement, he hopes, for

the Government to be able to bestow on Ulster new provincial institutions of some kind to alleviate the directness of "direct rule".

In bringing three of the four invited parties under starter's orders Mr Atkins has already disclosed a diplomatic talent. The Catholic/nationalist SDLP would not attend if all discussion were to be barred of arrangements which might open a window on eventual Irish unity. Mr Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, now trying out the role of goodlies, would not attend if the union were to be put in issue to any way whatever. Mr Atkins found a form of words to satisfy both, the obvious brittleness of which suggests that both parties are really quite keen to attend the conference, even if not to see it prosper.

The Unionist Party proper, still on the basis of the latest election results the largest of the Northern Ireland parties and the main political vehicle for unionism, maintains its disapproval of these proceedings. It will not be there, but as its contribution it has sent in a position paper repeating the scheme it evolved for the constitutional convention four years ago—a legislative assembly sustaining an executive which would be formed according to Westminster conventions—and

calling, if that is not available, for beefed-up local government. It can at least be said of that position that it fortifies Mr James Moynihan's claim to consistency.

The not very bright prospect of success for the Stormont conference, and the modest proportions of the success if it comes, raises the question, Why after ten years of civil strife in Ulster is not something more on Lancaster House lines being attempted? Sufficient answer lies in the contrast between Ulster and Rhodesia. Two conditions for the success of the Lancaster House conference were the internationalizing of the question and the acceptance into legitimate politics of the guerrilla leaders. Internationalizing the Ulster question would do nothing to relieve the stubborn cause of that conflict, which is divided allegiance among the present and historical inhabitants of the province, their contradictory political identification. It would be likely to have the opposite effect. And there is not the slightest evidence that the Provisional IRA possesses or is acquiring the level of popular support that would justify ceasing to treat its leaders as murderous subversives to be hunted and beginning to treat them as representatives with whom to parley.

were out, I remember Robson as editor saying, with rare passion, that he would never vote Labour again until Harold Wilson was no longer party leader.

The service of *The Political Quarterly* to politicians and political analysts is, and has always been, that almost alone in the United Kingdom, it fills the gap between the daily and weekly sources of news and comment, and the academic theses that may take years to write.

It has provided a longer perspective than any newspaper or weekly journal could allow, alike in terms of article length and in scope of historical reference; and it has always had at its call a range of specialists, not necessarily academic, who have felt comfortable within the covers of a sober journal to tell a political story from the inside. (The *Quarterly*, by the way, is produced at book size, and uses neither pictures nor photographic tricks. The seriousness of the writers assumes, without question, the seriousness of the reader.)

We may justifiably doubt whether there was ever a time when such an editorial approach to the study of politics could be reckoned more valuable. Nothing astonishes me more, when I compare my trade today with what it used to be, than the extent to which all the communicators live off each other.

Morning newspapers put an idea into the minds of desperate radio and television producers, and then morning newspapers reproduce what television and radio have said; and, for their part, academics writing minutes of newspaper cuttings and tape recordings of broadcasts. If Gladstone were alive today, he would never bother with a Midlothian campaign; he would simply ring up Robin Day on *The World at One* and ask for a 10-minute spot.

So corruption of the record pervasively creeps in. Television no longer shows seriously journalistic programmes in support of, or in opposition to, a particular branch of "show business" (television's beloved phrase, not mine), and radio cannot even get a man into a studio to play records without calling it some pious "show".

Michael Parkinson, one of the wisest off-the-cuff speakers I know, and a consummate journalist, is employed by the BBC to lick the shoes of the latest actor or actress who wants to puff a book or a film.

Robin Day protests if you defend him from the charge that he is in "show business", although a more serious student of politics it would be hard to find. Russell Day, they tell me, is a human being in his own right, in spite of the programmes he gets.

Television, with its fond belief that established names matter more than content, goes on to corrupt radio and newspapers. The dreadful fate of parliamentary sketch writers stands as a Fleet Street warning. Not long ago, Bill Buckley, classical scholar from Glasgow University, day after day filled page two of *Beaverbrook's Daily Express* with a brilliant account of a full day's parliamentary debate. Cleopatra Palmer, of the *New-Chronicle*, scarcely needed more than half a column to explain a budget or nationalize an industry. Harry Boardman, of *The Guardian*, brought urbanity and humour to bear on every line he wrote about a parliament he respected.

Today, most of their clever successors are in show business; they are more important as reporters than the events they report. They are encouraged to be everything except dull and opinion-minded. Their deadlines mean that if they are to paint the Sistine Chapel they must begin polishing their prose soon after Question Time; and so they turn Question Time into a daily situation comedy or soap opera, replete with a familiar cast of clowns and knaves (the radio experiment in broadcasting questions certainly helped readers to appreciate their undoubted wit and infinite superiority).

Nor would their highly subjective accounts of politics matter so much if their papers gave fuller parliamentary reports, where MPs might be heard in their own right, especially those who have no hankering to be part of the day's theatre. That is why Westminster's favourite political interviewer is now Jimmy Young, of all things a record player. Why? Mr Young lets ministers and MPs talk for themselves without being scored off any more than he would score off one of his rather revolting recaps.

That is why some of us, too, will pronounce a benediction this week on William Robson and *The Political Quarterly*, which was born as the Ramsey MacDonald government of 1929 tottered to its certain end, and now, well rooted in an even thinner soil, begins to address itself to the politics of the 1980s.

Assisted places scheme

From Mr Merlyn Rees, MP for Leeds South (Labour)

Sir, I have read with interest the correspondence on the assisted places scheme, culminating in the letter from the Headmaster of Clifton College (December 31).

It may well have been appropriate for Mr Andrews's grandparents to be educated at the expense of the lord of the manor. His father, like my father and I, attended the local grammar school; this type of secondary education was an important element in educational development in the early years of the twentieth century.

I am concerned with what is appropriate today. Where comprehensive education cannot generate the right academic atmosphere then the local authorities concerned need to look at their overall organization, and particularly the relevance of sixth form colleges and, in some instances, of colleges of further education.

I do not believe that independent schools could, or should, be forbidden by law. I see no use for them in a local authority context provided there is a properly organized and funded system of comprehensive education. It was for this reason that I supported Mr Reg Prentice when he began the implementation of Labour Party policy in ending the Direct Grant system, which was appropriate in its time. As an MP representing an "inner city area" I find it incredible that Mr Andrews could see independent schools as relevant to the problem of primary school children who "would be swamped at a poor neighbourhood comprehensive". We really do live in two England.

I agree with the Rector of Clifton who described the Assisted Places scheme as "immoral". This scheme is to cost £35 million a year. For this money at this time and in all times.

Yours sincerely,
MERLYN REES,
House of Commons.

Legal training grants

From Sir Frederick Lawton

Sir, How sad it is that Mr J. H. Stevenson (December 31) finds himself in practice as a barrister. With his appreciation of the relationship between time and earnings and his seeming lack of understanding of what makes a barrister, he is in practice despite financial disappointments, he should have taken up either plumbing or dentistry.

A private income, a working wife, superb contacts or exceptional ability may help, but what really matters is there to be a barrister and nothing else.

I know, I had none of Mr Stevenson's suggested assets when I started at the Bar; but my twenty-five years in practice were the happiest in my life. I often wish I could live them over again, even though for the first four years I had to supplement my poor earnings by doing evening jobs.

I had, however, the advantage which the present day young men and women wanting to practise have not: I had to work for my money. I had to earn my money, and I had to pay for the obligatory professional training course which has to be completed before call to the Bar.

Without a grant for this course many able students cannot hope to start practice.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK LAWTON,
Mordry,
Stoptide, Rock, Cornwall.

Threat to local democracy

From Mr P. B. Sidebottom and Mr Wyndham Thomas

Sir, We were saddened to read the comments of Sir Kenneth Thompson (leader of Merseyside County Council) (December 17) condemning Mr Michael Heseltine's proposal to set up a development corporation to promote the renewal of the run down inner areas of Merseyside. For more than ten years now the City Council, the County Council and the Development Corporation have worked successfully together in carrying through the rapid expansion and extensive renewal of Peterborough. Through it all, local democracy continues to flourish.

And the rights and responsibilities of councillors and electors are in no degree circumscribed or reduced. In fact, they seem to us to be enhanced by having so many more projects to discuss and to help bring to the fore.

Of course, the easiest relationship to have between public agencies is a bad and unproductive one. You don't have to work to get that. A good relationship needs the sharing of objectives and the will to co-operate—among chief officers as well as members—for the larger good.

Our authorities would be glad to welcome Sir Kenneth and his colleagues for a day's discussion of how we are together making a success of Peterborough's expansion and rebuilding. Neither could do it without the other.

Yours faithfully,
PETER B. SIDEBOTTOM,
Chief Executive,
Peterborough City Council,
Wyndham Thomas,
General Manager,
Peterborough Development Corporation,
Town Hall,
Peterborough.

Commanding the clouds

From Mr Peter Stewart

Sir, How sad it is that the tin god syndrome appears to be spreading to the London Weather Centre. By what right are the meteorologists there "able to offer" me, today, "a better day than yesterday"?

By what means do they "take the whole of the country"? I suppose they have been infected by those British Airways pilots who tell me from the flight deck: "This is your Captain speaking", thus ignoring the fact that I have embarked for the flight, not enlisted for the duration.

Yours faithfully,
PETER STEWART,
3 Hendon Wood Lane,
Arkley, NW7.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

From Professor R. A. Weale

Sir, Lord Carrington's view that the world must not allow the Soviets to forget their latest adventure deserves support. After their incursion into Czechoslovakia in 1968 the dust was allowed to settle with indecent haste.

At least one of the learned societies issued a blunt statement to the effect that the mind of Russia could be civilized only by the maintenance of scientific, artistic and cultural contacts.

Half a generation has since grown up: the experiment has failed. We cannot have cultural exchanges when there is no culture to exchange. By all means let the experiment be resumed—after the Russian Revolution.

Yours very truly,
R. A. WEALE,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1,
January 3.

From Mr C. D. Bellamy

Sir, Concerning Russia's Palmerstonian adventure in Afghanistan, others will make moral judgments, no doubt, but let us get history right. In the last few days we have been reminded of that cliché: "Russia is aiming for a warm-water port".

Every schoolboy has been told that, but we often do not tell our children the truth. We ought to consider the judgement of the clever men in the British War Office in 1907: "The frequently quoted desire of Russia to obtain access to the open sea and possess warm water ports is not stated here as a separate and definite object of Russian foreign policy, for there does not appear to be sufficient ground for so doing."

"Russia already possesses upon the Murman coast excellent ice-free harbours which she has never made any use of. Vladivostok is virtually ice-free, but she has never turned it to any account."

"Russia no doubt desires to possess ice-free harbours, but only as accessories and stalking horses for her larger schemes of expansion." *Military Resources of the Russian Empire*, War Office, General Staff, 1907.

It might be added that Russia's quest in Afghanistan has never had anything to do with the sea. It is part of a desire to secure her own borders, a policy ultimately concerned with defence and consolidation, related to Sir Halford MacKinder's "heartland" theory. Much trouble can be avoided by prompt action, executed with panache, in unstable areas close to home. Our own ancestors knew this; we, perhaps, have forgotten.

I remain yours faithfully,
C. D. BELLAMY,
150 Lambeth Road, SE1.

From Mr J. D. C. Martin

Sir, The man in the Russian street has been told that his rulers have sent a "limited military contingent" to Afghanistan. None of us guess what he believes or knows of the true facts, but boycotting the Olympics will impress him that his Government has done something deserving the wrath of other countries and no other one action can do this for the ordinary blinkered Russian.

For the world to attend the Olympics would afford the Kremlin enormous publicity and propaganda as it did for Hitler in 1936. To be denied this is part of the price they must pay for their invasion of Afghanistan.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. C. MARTIN,
1 West Bar,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

From Mr David Shriver

Sir, I was absolutely appalled on hearing that a boycott of the 1980

hours my profession demands. I need to know I can get there on time.

I don't think the British buying habits are exceptional. I think in the current circumstances, they come under the heading of sensible. Yours faithfully,
BRYAN FORBES,
The Bookshop,
Virginia Water,
Surrey.

From Mr Peter Blood

Sir, While we must all admire Sir Michael Edwards in his efforts with BL, he appears to be embarking upon a most dangerous policy, if his letter (January 2) truly reflects company views and intentions. In alleging that customers are showing lack of self-control by purchasing "exotic" foreign cars, he seems to imply that the purchase of a British car must now become an act of patriotic self-sacrifice.

Sir Michael seems to be aware that marketing is concerned with satisfying customer requirements and it is here that BL, sadly, has failed. Potential car buyers look at reliability, design, price and availability, possibly in that order of priority. He will check these factors across the models in his price range.

If, for example, he looked at Which?, October, 1979, he would note that some of the "exotic" models which are apparently becoming more popular, have fewer major faults, breakdowns and days off the road than some of British Leyland's more expensive models. May I, therefore, suggest that people will most certainly "Buy British" when our cars are the best designed, most reliable, most economical and most cost-effective vehicles available on the world market.

Finally, it is not quite extraordinary that the British, with all our experience of design, should be buying designs from the Japanese in order to produce vehicles in BL strike-prone factories.

Yours faithfully,
PETER B. BLOOD,
Director-General,
Institute of Marketing,
Moor Hall,
Cookham,
Berkshire,
January 4.

Problems at the keyboard

From Mr Christopher Hogwood

Sir, On looking into my diary of musical engagements for this new year, I discover some 35 days' ensemble work projected with my English colleagues, and some 25 days involving the cooperation of foreign performers with English. In other years I would have enjoyed this prospect, but following a recent reappraisal by the Musicians' Union, the first category is prevented from happening, since I am not a member.

On the other hand, were I, despite my conscience, to become a member, the second category would be forfeit. I find this difficult to explain to colleagues who will, either way round, be losing work. They, and I, feel that this is not the place for collectivist coercion.

On consulting my diary for the last few weeks of 1979, however, I note that while my union friends were suddenly banned from performing with me as a keyboard player (something which had presented no problems for the last 12 years), the members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra were not prevented from performing with the harpsichordist Antal Dorati and several dozen similar "exceptions" were also noted.

Since, conscience apart, this cannot be good for union integrity, music or patronage, I wonder whether your readers could suggest what my New Year resolution ought to be?

Yours harmoniously,
CHRISTOPHER HOGWOOD,
The Academy of Ancient Music,
2 Claremont,
Hill Road,
Cambridge,
January 3.

Berkeley's coach

From Judge Alastair Bell

Sir, In your article, "Bishop Berkeley's coach" (January 2) you were over-generous in your use of the term "British". Since England and Scotland travel the same road, in the same state coach, you assume that they may safely be referred to as one nation.

It is not so: you confuse genus and species. And you were thus led into a series of errors which, in others, might be regarded as demonstrating superficiality of thought.

It is scarcely true to say of the Scots that they "are not much moved by economics", when a main cause of the devolution of *débacle* was their calculation that fiscal disadvantage might outweigh an increased ration of sovereignty. I ought not to him at this time of year, your virgilellian, that Shakespeare is in any sense a poet national to Scotland.

You cite the contribution to English literature of spiritual writers of the seventeenth century, without mentioning Samuel Rutherford.

You imply that the Scots join their English neighbours, if indeed it be true of them, in regarding lucidity as "superficial" and intellectual passion as "ill-mannered". One might be forgiven for describing your virgilellian in this extreme, if peninsular did not appear the better word.

Perhaps Sir Harold Nicholson was right when he said in a broadcast in 1956: "The English, having been taught from their school days that character is more important than intelligence, are inclined to restrict their reflection to things that entail little effort in the mind and to escape from all disquieting thought."

Adam Smith, of whom you, Sir, have made some study, would not have demurred from Samuel Rutherford in saying: "Truth is an indivisible line which has no latitude and cannot admit of splitting."

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,
ALASTAIR BELL,
63 Wingham Lane,
Broughton,
Preston,
Lancashire,
January 2.

Au pair girls

From Mrs Isobel Doubleday

Sir, I would have expected the Minister of State at the Home Office to be aware of the distinction between family exchanges and au pairs.

Families whose children are studying languages exchange their sons and daughters with other children of the same age in another country during the school holidays to give them some familiarity with the language before examinations. The exchanges are likely to be restricted to European families since it is largely European languages that are studied at school.

Au pairs are older girls who come to live with a family for six months, a year or more, where the children are usually under ten years old, in order to help with the running of the household in return for learning the language (often attending formal classes) and getting to know the country and its culture. To quote from "An au pair in your home" (Home Office booklet D9 596982 Pro 11811/179) "...the au pair will return to her home with a last-minute understanding of its customs."

One would earnestly hope that this regard and understanding will not be confined to Europe.

Yours faithfully,
ISOBEL DOUBLEDAY,
Lodge Cottage,
Goat Lodge Road,
Great Thorpe,
Maldon,
Essex.

Gold standard

From Mr Derrick Seeborn

Sir, When I got married in the early Thirties, I was told that my wife was worth her weight in gold. She still is!

Yours faithfully,
DERICK SEEBORN,
Hale Cottage,
Bridgewater Road,
Wincoburn,
Avon.

David Wood

Jimmy Young—a rival celebration

An anniversary occurs this week that should not be allowed to go unused or unmarked by politicians. On Thursday well-wishers and contributors of *The Political Quarterly* will be at a reception in the House of Lords to celebrate the golden jubilee of the journal that has managed to maintain uncompromising standards of scholarship, lucid writing, and Whiggish analysis into a new day when reach-me-down judgments make a political commentator the glass of fashion and the mould of form. Usually living from hand to mouth, at least commercially, it has shown extraordinary toughness in its ability to survive, much as it showed extraordinary determination to get born.

After all, *The Political Quarterly* must count as the one wild risk investment ever made by George Bernard Shaw. Rather more than 50 years ago Professor William Robson, of the London School of Economics, then in his devil-may-care thirties, bearded Shaw, always a financially cautious if not downright mean man, and dunned him for a contribution to a journal, academic in approach and leftist in its stand. Shaw allowed him (I think) £1,000, neyed he could walk with a closed fist past a street musician and murmur "Press".

Robson, the *Quarterly's* "onlie begger", also enlisted Kingsley Martin of *The New Statesman*, and the early connexion with Green of Turnstile was formed. The late, editors runs: Robson, Martin, Leonard Woolf, and T. E. Crick, of which, with Bernard Shaw, that is, Birkbeck now in his chair. That is, editorial policy, corrected with an academic bias that usually ensured the most devastating analyses of Labour in action were to be found in *The Political Quarterly*. Long before the 1960s

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWSWhat has gone
wrong in
the apple
orchards?
page 17

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 413.9
FT Cils 65.99

■ **Sterling**
£2.380
Index 70.3

■ **Dollar**
Index 84.4

■ **Gold**
\$390 an ounce

■ **3-month money**
Inter-bank 16 13/16 to
15/16
Euro 5 14 9/16 to 14 11/16
Friday's close

IN BRIEF

North Sea
oil price
will depend
on Nigeria

North Sea oil prices are set to rise by up to \$7 from the present \$26 to \$33 a barrel. Last night, energy officials were waiting for confirmation of the new price for Nigerian crude before the price of North Sea oil could be set. This will bring North Sea prices into line with those charged by African producers for comparable grades of oil. Libyan and Algerian increases indicate a new price of about \$34, but recent reports from Lagos suggest that Nigerian oil will be increased to only \$30.

If this proves correct, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, is now visiting the Middle East, is likely to restrain North Sea prices to a level only slightly above the Nigerian mark.

£88,000 compensation

An £88,000 compensation payment for loss of office has been paid to a former senior civil servant. The payment was made to a former senior civil servant who had been dismissed from his post in 1974. The payment was made to a former senior civil servant who had been dismissed from his post in 1974.

Oil summit proposed

The Brandt Commission is to propose a world oil summit to discuss ways of ensuring orderly oil marketing by reducing countries' and energy saving by consumers. Mr Olof Palme, the former Swedish Premier said in Stockholm. He added: "We are approaching a catastrophe" and it was necessary to take action. The summit would be held in 1981 and would be attended by all major oil-producing and consuming countries.

US gold medalion plan

The United States Bureau of the Mint, Treasury Department unit, plans to begin production of gold medalions in March at West Point, New York, and will be ready to sell them to the public in June and July, according to Mrs Stella B. Backel, the director of the mint. The United States will use one million ounces of gold for the project this year.

Reform urged

In a Bow Group pamphlet published today, radical reform of building societies is urged by its authors Simon Mabey and Paul Tillet. They recommend that societies should become commercial companies and that their interest rate control and tax advantages be abolished. They acknowledge the "considerable political difficulties" their proposals would involve, and also admit there would be a slightly higher mortgage rate. However, they conclude the proposals "are capable of being seen by the public to be in its interest".

Gold up in Hongkong

Gold rose strongly on Hongkong market after President Carter announced his economic sanctions against the Soviet Union late on Friday. It closed at \$630 an ounce, the peak level it reached in London on Thursday and \$40 higher than the Friday London close.

Airfreight rates alter

British Cargo Airlines, the Gatwick-based all-freight operator, is to review its rates on a week-by-week basis from today.

£4.4m contract

Cosman Construction has won a £4.4m contract to build an extension for Barranquilla Investments at an office block in Piasbury Square, London.

Europe must not
flinch from
import controls,
CBI report saysBy David Blake
Economics Editor

In a sombre assessment of Britain's trade prospects in the 1980s, the Confederation of British Industry today calls for a much tougher stand against "unfair" practices both by other industrialized countries and by the developing world.

The CBI view, spelled out in a discussion document, calls on the EEC to be prepared to use selective import controls if European producers face severe disruption as a result of competition from the rest of the world.

The newly industrializing countries are seen as a particular threat to European industries, but the document specifically suggests that Europe ought to be prepared to use selective import controls against anyone in the world, including Japan.

The CBI takes a gloomy view of the competitiveness of British industry during the 1980s. It gives a warning that we are probably facing far slower growth in world markets than in recent years.

At the same time, the strength of sterling because of North Sea oil will make goods uncompetitive, leading to a further decline in our share of world markets and increasing import penetration.

Faced with this gloomy picture, the CBI stresses the distinction between its belief in "free trade" within the EEC and "fair trade" with the rest of the world.

In practice, the organisation is worried both by the rising tide of imports and the severe problems which face British exporters. Because of competition from newly industrializing countries "all British manu-

facturers of consumer goods and other standard technological products will become vulnerable in the 1980s".

While rejecting the overt use of protectionism to save industry, the paper is clearly sympathetic towards much wider use of special protectionist measures. It lists three options for the problem of threatened industries in Britain. Either they can go to the wall; or there can be piecemeal use of EEC restrictions on imports; or there could be an industrial strategy based on "core industries" which we need to survive.

The paper says that adopting the last approach would have the advantage of having a policy which could be applied to individual sectors as soon as the need became apparent and not, as at present, after lengthy deliberation when the damage had been done.

The CBI is clearly particularly concerned about the impact of countries such as Korea and Brazil. It suggests that some way should be found to strip them of some of the advantages conferred on them by developing country status.

This cutting back of the privileges of these countries would be tied in to some measure of their success, such as living standards. It could either come about through the countries themselves being prepared to forgo the advantages, or more seriously, through the European and possibly other industrialized countries taking the privileges away from them.

What is particularly annoying to the CBI is that countries such as Korea and Taiwan have access to European markets, while European suppliers are kept out of these countries.

Ex-minister says Inmos agreed to back assisted areas

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

Controversy over the decision by the National Enterprise Board's Inmos microelectronics subsidiary to locate its first factory in Bristol will be intensified when Parliament re-assembles next week.

Mr Alan Williams, MP for Swansea West who was Minister of State at the Department of Industry under the last Labour Government, intends to mobilize the regional groups of Labour MPs representing Scotland and north-east and north-west England to join him and his south Wales group in protesting at the choice.

There is a conflict between Mr Williams' account of Department of Industry negotiations with Inmos during his time as a government minister and that given by the company.

Mr Williams insists that Inmos gave an undertaking to locate its first two factories in an assisted area or areas. Mr Iann Barron, executive director of Inmos, denied any such agreement.

Mr Williams said that, as



Mr Alan Williams: protesting at choice of site.



Mr Iann Barron: no pledge to back assisted areas.

Minister of State, he had refused three times to grant an industrial development certificate to Inmos for the company's technology centre to be located at Bristol.

This is the Inmos research and development unit in the United Kingdom, and Bristol

was confirmed as its location in December, 1978.

An industrial development certificate for the technology centre, Mr Williams said, was granted only when Inmos gave an undertaking that at least the first two of its production units would be located in assisted

areas. Four such areas was envisaged, each of which to employ about 1,000 people. An Inmos spokesman repeated at the weekend the declaration by Mr Iann Barron when announcing the choice of Bristol for the first production unit last month that no such pledge had been made by the company.

One sentence concerning Inmos in the National Enterprise Board's annual report for 1978 said: "The firm intention is that the United Kingdom production facilities will be located in assisted areas." This represented the view of the NEB and not of Inmos, said the company spokesman.

According to Mr Williams, the Inmos undertaking is documented in the records of the Department of Industry and its decision to grant an industrial development certificate for the Bristol technology centre on the basis of that undertaking was taken by collective government decision.

According to Inmos, more than 200 sites were evaluated in a survey by PA Management

Consultants before Bristol was chosen for the first production unit. Three areas emerged in the final short-list of five sites—the North-east, south Wales, and the south-west.

Inmos had wanted a prestige site, the company spokesman said, not one "in the middle of a run-down industrial estate". It also made sense to have the research development and production technologies close together because the company hoped the two groups would mix—"We need the transfer of knowledge both ways".

Thus Inmos plans to combine the production unit with its technology centre to create what it describes as "an integrated capability".

The Inmos plan to set up the Bristol factory is dependent on three main decisions for its realization. It will need an industrial development certificate; planning permission from the North Avon District Council; and approval from Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, for the NEB-approved second £25m investment in Inmos.

Extra £750m in BSC
borrowing proposedBy Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Parliament will be asked to approve a £750m increase to £5,500m in the British Steel Corporation's borrowing limit early in the next financial year. But the capital raised in the next financial year will be used for the construction of new plants by the steel unions and Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman, is expected to be delayed.

The BSC, now entering the second week of a strike which has halted all production, still expects to remain within this year's cash limit of £700m although the longer the strike lasts the more tightly stretched its finances will be.

The strike, which is costing the BSC £5.5m and £6m a week in lost sales, is a severe blow to prospects of meeting the Government's target of BSC operating at a profit in

the next financial year beginning in April.

Sir Charles and steel industry unions have been preoccupied with a reconstruction of the corporation's financial base which will require legislation. This appears unlikely in view of the already heavy parliamentary legislative timetable and it is much more likely that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, will seek to raise the existing borrowing limit to the present maximum of £5,500m.

The ceiling was set nearly two years ago when a £750m increase to £4,750m was approved. At that time provision was made for a further similar sum subject to an affirmative resolution of the House of Commons. At the end of its last financial year BSC's total borrowings against the limit were £3,738m.

Sanctions could jeopardize large contracts
Soviet trade dilemma for Britain

By John Lawless

The Soviet Union had a visible trade surplus of more than £350m over Britain in 1979, an increase of £150m on the figure the previous year, but it would be Britain that would suffer if two-way trade were reduced either through direct sanctions or because of tension over Afghanistan.

United Kingdom industrialists involved in large contracts and also negotiating future business worth hundreds of millions of pounds are anxious about the leading role taken by Britain in the United Nations debate on Afghanistan.

Four fifths of British imports from the Soviet Union last year, worth almost £800m, were raw materials. Forty per cent were industrial diamonds, 30 per cent oil of a type not available from the North Sea and 12 per cent timber and cork.

Britain has a growing dependency on the Soviet Union as a source of industrial diamonds. Last year's purchases at about £300m were twice as large as in 1978. If the supplies were in any way restricted Britain would lose out on the substantial reexports of diamonds.

When the Russians buy from Britain, worth £400m last year, falls into five major categories. Specialised and general industrial machinery accounting for 20 per cent of exports to the Soviet Union, inorganic chemicals 19 per cent, iron and steel 9 per cent, textile yarn 15 per cent and non-ferrous metals 7 per cent.

Shipments of industrial specific items ebb and flow according to the large industrial projects being fulfilled at any one time.

Last year's trade figures reflect the completion of the Coburn gas turbine contracts, in which Rolls Royce was heavily involved, with an increase in sales of power generating equipment.

Current trade statistics show the equipment being moved



Pouring into Britain: industrial diamonds account for £300m imports from Russia.

under £175m Davy International contracts for the supply of two methanol plants. A specially built, ocean-going barge has arrived in Siberia during the past fortnight with seven process vessels weighing a total of 1,400 tons being unloaded.

The Davy contracts highlight perfectly two ways in which Britain would suffer from a trade embargo with the Soviet Union. They were secured in May 1977 after two years of negotiations. Outstanding orders held by Davy with the Russians total £307m and underline the necessity of an ongoing commitment to the market.

Two meetings, one in London at government-to-government level and due to be held this May and another in Moscow this autumn between businessmen would be jeopardized by any British-led action.

Secondly, work under the Restriction on sales of computer equipment for projects such as the methanol plants, important for the Russian industrialization programme, could be a method of retaliation by Britain. But these were worth little more than £10m last year and a ban on their sales could have a damaging effect on future negotiations over much larger deals.

Gold and
Iran high
on bankers'
agendaFrom Peter Norman
Brussels, Jan 6

Gold and the monetary implications of the Iranian crisis are expected to be high on the agenda when Western central bankers meet in Basel this week.

Although the price of gold slipped back on Friday, last week's rush into the metal speaks volumes over the lack of confidence in the international monetary system that the bankers' meeting faces. As one European central bank official observed last week, the central bank governors from the Group of Ten countries and Switzerland will be falling down on their job if they do not discuss at least the possibility of selling gold from reserves to quell speculation and depress the price.

But this is not to say that corresponding decisions can be expected from the two-day meeting that starts tomorrow at the Bank for International Settlements.

Some senior European central bank officials were suggesting last week that the gold price rise cannot be viewed in the same way as a monetary crisis. The phenomenon was disturbing but rather as a symptom of the West's much wider problems in the political and military fields. The bankers' alarm is likely to be raised fully only if the gold price phenomenon spills over on to the currency markets.

It was also argued that the boom in the gold price has been artificially nourished by a shortage of supply. Soviet gold has not appeared on the market for many months and South African production is thought to be down.

It was thought that if any nation were to suggest coordinated gold sales by Western central banks it would be the United States. However, Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, is not expected to attend the meeting in Basel.

The news that West Germany has asked its banks to support a limited range of sanctions against Iran is likely to bring the continuing repercussions of the Iranian crisis to the bankers' attention.

Although the German initiative was organized by the Finance Ministry in Bonn, the Federal Bank in Frankfurt is thought to have been closely involved in the formulation of the policy.

Another problem that could be discussed is that of recycling vast increased Opec surpluses following the recent round of oil price increases.

Neddy to discuss new
technology speed-upBy Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The Government is expected to urge industrialists and trade unionists to speed the introduction of new technology. At Wednesday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, the council will consider various aspects of the effects of new technology on employment.

A paper outlining the position of the Department of Employment, and in introducing new technology, would be for sale to employers and trade unionists. The paper would be for sale to employers and trade unionists.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, may also take the opportunity to discuss a report to the Cabinet Office due to be published today. Prepared by the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, this is expected to recommend steps which Britain should take to use the technology successfully.

The advisory council believes that the NEDC should build in a strategy for technological change as an integral part of its work. It also wants more training schemes for people in mid-career with earnings-related benefits to encourage skilled workers to change occupations.

This last point is in accord with the first NEDC meeting with the Trades Union Congress which takes a more equivocal attitude to technological change than either the employers or the Government. The TUC will be report-

ing in detail on the conclusions reached by members of its economic committee after a visit to the United States. Trade unionists consider that a high level of public support is vital for introducing new technology, and that people whose present skills may become outdated.

There appears to be a "chicken and egg" difference between the TUC's approach to new technology and that of the Confederation of British Industry. The TUC argues that the rate of economic growth is a necessary condition for the successful adoption of new technologies. The CBI, on the other hand, says that new technology must come first in order to improve international competitiveness and create economic growth and so increase employment.

Sir John Methven, CBI director-general, is expected to announce a further development of his employee communication programme at a meeting. This will take the form of a staff discussion document which the CBI is due to publish shortly and which is part of its drive to help management explain economic issues to individual workers.

One of the points made by the TUC group which visited the United States was that shortages of skilled manpower imposed real constraints on growth in American electronics companies. The CBI has also commented on the mis-match of skills and job vacancies.

Mrs Thatcher's task in chairing the first NEDC meeting will be to highlight the many common areas between employers and trade unionists in order to foster a cooperative approach.

EEF will
support
Finniston

By Derek Harris

The Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) is expected to support the report of the Finniston Committee on the state of the engineering profession and manufacturing industry, due to be published on Wednesday.

But the EEF is likely to urge that costs be contained by ensuring that the proposed engineering authority for registering and accrediting professional engineers does not grow too large and that registered engineers should pay annual fees.

The EEF is also anxious to see enough seats on the authority's governing body to give employers a strong voice, which could be achieved partly by including representatives from bodies such as the Society of Manufacturers of British Industry.

This is expected to be in line with recommendations from the committee, whose chairman is Sir Monty Finniston.

Positive support from industry is being regarded as vital if the Engineering Authority is to get off the ground. The EEF's support will be particularly welcome but Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, is likely also to sound out key companies on the report.

The Government's decision on the recommendations will be set out in a White Paper after consultations with industry, educational, interests and professional institutions involved. Legislation could be brought forward in the autumn.

The major costs factor facing the Government would be in reorganizing engineering education to meet common standards.

US reshapes trade policy team

From Frank Vogt
Washington, Jan 6

Three years of trade deficits, amounting altogether to more than \$75,000m (\$24,000m) have prompted the White House to take trade policy seriously and the result is a big shake-up of the federal government's bureaucracy.

Last week President Carter signed an executive order that greatly strengthened the trade policy responsibilities of the Special Trade Representative and of the Department of Commerce. Both the Department of State and the Treasury are losing many of their foreign trade powers.

This has prompted fears among some observers that the United States may become more protectionist. Officials say this will not be the case. "We are not going to be protectionist and we are not going to be discriminatory free traders either," says Mr Donald Furud, Deputy Under Secretary for Trade at the Commerce Department.

Until now influence over trade policy has been split between a number of officials. The role of the Special Trade Representative, for example, had been limited to multilateral negotiations, but now Mr

Reuben Askew, the former Governor of Florida who holds this position, is to have greatly expanded powers.

Mr Askew will be in overall charge of all trade policy issues involving negotiations, and he will have a staff of about 150. Most importantly, he will chair the Trade Policy Committee, whose task is to coordinate all the government's assorted foreign trade dealings.

To no small extent Mr Askew will be America's "minister of exports" and he will be leaving almost all of the day-to-day trade policy chores—ranging from dumping investigations to monitoring international trade agreements—to a vast team of civil servants now being assembled at the Department of Commerce.

The Commerce Department's efforts will be headed by a new under-secretary, who has yet to be appointed, as well as by Mr Furud and three assistant secretaries. This team will preside over some 2,700 bureaucrats.

The structure of the new organization plan looks straightforward, but its sheer size seems daunting. Officials simply point out, however, that it has to be big in view of the

volume of American foreign trade which now exceeds \$300,000m annually.

The new organization will not lead to any swift changes in the balance of trade trends, but over time the effect could be substantial. There is just a chance that the bureaucracy may now be better able to respond to business inquiries about foreign trade opportunities and that businessmen may be made more aware of the benefits of exporting. Similarly it is quite possible that the new organization will be more effective on the dumping front.

The main lines of the Carter Administration's trade policies are now clear. First, greater efforts are being made to boost exports, hence the new organization and plans to strengthen the Export-Import Bank. Then at the same time, the President has declared his determination to cut imports by forcing greater energy conservation and greater domestic energy output.

So at last the United States is joining the ranks of the other key industrial nations and according foreign trade policy the priority it deserves. The long-term effects on employment, inflation and the dollar could be substantial.

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THE POUND			
	Bank buys	Bank sells	
Australian \$	2.06	1.99	
Austrian Sch	29.20	27.28	
Belgian Fr	66.75	63.35	
Canada \$	12.39	11.84	
Denmark Kr	5.60	5.20	
Finnish Mk	9.28	8.88	
France Fr	13.40	12.80	
Germany Dm	4.01	3.79	
Greece Dr	99.00	10.80	
Italy Lira	1850.00	1765.00	
Japan Yen	557.00	532.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.42	4.19	

MANAGEMENT

More consultation means less confrontation

In one of the first comments she made this year, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, reaffirmed her belief that what Britain needs to succeed in the 1980s is better management. "If you're working well, using the latest equipment and machinery to the fullest extent, if you're working with management, if you've got good management, you ought to do better," she said.

But how do you define "good management"? Alison Mitchell asked a selection of managers, trade unionists and theoreticians what management changes they would like to see in the 1980s.



Mr. Norman Hodgson, Chairman of ICI

"I believe that with the removal of the present Government's distortions and political threats—such as price controls, the threat of nationalisation of the pharmaceuticals business, and Bullock—the opportunity and obligation for better management are there.

"The reduced tax rates add an incentive, so a positive response is not only necessary but merited.

"The first aspect, and a key one, is that we encourage a participative approach, to give the weekly workers an opportunity to know, understand and influence what is going on, particularly in their own environment. The Bullock approach of putting workers on the board is

the wrong one. But I believe that employees should know what's going on in their own work area and should have the opportunity to influence the decisions: participation, not merely information.

"In parallel with that, management should generate a reward system that reflects differential performance. Good performance and bad performance, rather than the job, should determine what the man is paid.

"Management should also reward workers on the performance of the company, good or bad, through, for example, profit sharing schemes. Though I think the problem is broader than this simple solution.

"Finally, in the participative process, a bigger problem is for management to enable the work force to share uncertainty. A lot of our weekly staff are not aware of the degree of uncertainty surrounding the predictions on which management decisions are made."



Mr. Derek Hodgson, Managing Director of British Leyland

"We need a more helping type of management. We need consultation rather than confrontation to mutually resolve problems. Given an opportunity of management, you will find trade unions prepared to co-operate. However, with the scheduled legislation there is very little likelihood of an open

type of management, or an open type of environment.

"Before policy decisions are taken in the field of investment, new methods of production, or manning, there should be adequate opportunity for big involvement by the trade unions and representatives at the point of production, to allow a broad understanding.

"At present the decisions are taken and then the unions respond. If there is no such consultation and no such involvement then negative decisions are made which result in negative responses."

"We cannot expect management even if good, to carry the full burden of major changes in society.

"To improve, they need a greater will and determination which they have not had in recent years because they have felt their authority under threat. As a society, we are unwilling to take hard decisions. Management get themselves into impossible situations without thinking them through.

"Management could also do with more training to ensure that the intellectual underpinning of the business is sound. Management should reflect changes in society at large. Managers should become more individualistic, tougher, more successful."



Mr. John Smith, Director of the British Steel Corporation

"In the steel industry there is a mix of both good and bad management, and regrettably it is the latter which has been in the power position in recent years.

"The traditional steel manager, who was known and respected by the work force, is still there; but somehow his views are ignored when planning decisions are being taken. Top management, particularly those concerned in the planning of the British Steel Corporation, are best judged on their record."

"Good management in the 1980s will, more than ever before, be about leadership, communication and improved operational performance. Britain has good management; but it needs to be more effective in these challenging conditions."

"Senior management has to adopt the right commercial policies and overall strategies, and middle and junior management has to get results by putting

together policies, targets, skills and workers' efforts in a complex and demanding social, economic and political environment.

"At the same time, all management has to seek out, adapt, and make acceptable, those new ideas and methods that will help achieve these objectives.

"These objectives must include the new technologies and a more participative and open style of management that involves middle and junior managers as well as the workforce."

So, from the captains of industry to the trade unionists, there is agreement that the 1980s should herald a more open style of management, with an increase in consultation and a decrease in confrontation.

Sir John Smith, director general of the CBI, is another devotee of the open style in management. At the end of last year he set out priorities in achieving it.

It was, he said, essential that managers should tell their employees about every failure as well as every success. It was essential that they be consistent: that they communicate face to face whenever possible; that managers and supervisors be briefed first; and that managers, supervisors, and employees representatives be trained in the business of communicating.

It is, however, a reflection of both past attitudes and future difficulties in obtaining this participative and open style in management, that neither Mr. Smith, the CBI's director general, nor Mr. David Barnett, chairman of the TUC's influential economics committee, could find time to comment on the subject.

Post Office and tariff claims

From the Senior Director Post Office Postal Services
Sir, You published (January 3) letters from Mr. Fairlie of the Mail Users' Association and Mr. Ross of the Association of Mail Order Publishers which were said to deal with questions of principle concerning postal price increases. Unfortunately, much of Mr. Ross's letter was based on incorrect assumptions, including a false allegation that we had been delaying the arrival of a Post Office press release.

The Post Office vigorously pursues a policy of open communication with the media and its customers. The release which Mr. Ross claimed took a week to reach intended recipients was, in fact, in the hands of the media on December 20, the day of issue. It was sent to the Press Association news agency, which promptly relayed it to every major newspaper office in the country and newspapers carried reports the following day based upon our release. As a matter of courtesy, we also sent our major customers and interested trade associations a copy of that statement and this we did by post, so that they would have available our full statement for reference. The statement was primarily for the press.

Both your correspondents refer to a letter report in *The Times* of December 28 which you actually published on December 29. Perhaps the co-incident slip is understandable, given that Messrs Fairlie and Ross work for the same company (*Reader's Digest*).

The question of "the correct relationship between government, the customers and public monopolies" is, as Mr. Fairlie says, a matter for government. However, in making his point he did include some damaging and misleading criticism of the Post Office.

He chose to ignore the fact that we launched and publicized a Two-Year Postal Action Plan designed to restore service reliability, achieve internal economies and boost postal productivity. There has never been any question of relying on price rises alone. He might also have given us some credit for the job we did over the Christmas period when not only successfully delivered all mail posted by our recommended dates, but also over 100 million letters posted after those dates, despite letter bombs, strikes and bad weather.

Just for the record, it was the very same Mr. Fairlie who wrote of us in a recent book: "The British postal service has been and still is the equal of any foreign counterpart and greatly superior to most. It is still regarded by most other postal administrations as the model for today and the pacesetter for tomorrow."

Finally, a word about the Post Office and its relationship with the Post Office Users National Council (POUNC). We do, as a matter of principle and practice, liaise closely and continuously with POUNC and value the access to customers views which this affords.

In their recent report on our postal price proposals, POUNC urged that basic letter increases should be lower than we sought. Because of its financial position the Post Office could not agree with this view. The Government accepted the logic of our own proposal because of the overriding need for the postal business to meet its financial targets. However, POUNC made a number of other recommendations which we welcome and will be pursuing with the council.

Yours faithfully,
D. HENRY,
Headquarters Building,
St. Martin's-le-Grand,
London EC1A 1HQ.

From Mr. D. C. Lindley
Sir, Mr. Edmondson is very badly informed about the BL/Honda deal. He is quoted in *The Times* January 4 ("Impertinent criticizes Honda/BL deal"), as saying that "BL is being allowed to import a reported 85,000 Honda cars a year for assembly in this country. These cars are not part of the quota of Japanese cars."

BL's arrangements with Honda differ in two important respects from a simple car assembly arrangement. BL is not importing kits but is engaged on a manufacturing programme where over 50 per cent of the components used in the car will be made in Britain, including the body. Also the cars to be manufactured here will be marketed throughout the EEC and not restricted to sale in the United Kingdom.

The basic nature of the arrangement between BL and Honda is one of technical collaboration between manufacturers and not just an assembly programme by an importer/distributor. The statements made by Mr. Edmondson are therefore both inappropriate and invalid.

D. C. LINDLEY,
Manager External Affairs,
BL Limited,
35-37 Portman Square,
London W1H 0BN.

From Mr. Colin Minton
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CHECKLIST

Merchant Shipping Act 1979: came into force on January 1. Provides for an increase in the fines to be levied on owners of substandard ships from £1,000 to £50,000.

W. Weddell & Co Ltd v Tepper Court of Appeal held that, in order to justify a dismissal for misconduct as fair, an employer must establish that he believed that the employee was guilty of misconduct, that this belief was based on reasonable grounds, and that at the time he formed it, and that he had carried out as much investigation into the matter as was reasonable in the circumstances.

Dodd Properties (Kent) Ltd and Another v Canterbury City Council: Court of Appeal held that where damage caused to premises was not repaired for a number of years for good commercial reasons, the award against perpetrators of the damage should reflect the cost of repair now, rather than when it was originally done.

Pension funds: National Association of Pension Funds is to make three Golden Pen awards this year to the funds producing the best annual report, the best simplified report, and the best report in a special category for smaller funds. The NAPP Yearbook 1980 is available from NAPP, Prudential House, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 9XV, price £7.50 to members and £13 to non-members.

Car Tax (Description of Vehicles) Order 1979 (SI 1979/1646): came into effect on January 1. Effectively reduces the weight limit above which heavy vehicles cease to be liable for car tax by 107 pounds.

Coping with growth in high technology

One of the best known double-act in the electronics business, Sir Hewlett and Dave Packard of Palo Alto, California, ran the company that bears their name for high on 40 years. Then, two years ago, Mr. Hewlett took over from Mr. Hewlett as president, with Mr. Hewlett and Mr. Packard moving back to consultancy on long-term policy as chairman of the executive committee and chairman of the board respectively.

No drastic change was expected following Mr. Young's appointment. Hewlett-Packard is not that sort of company. But he does face a time of transition and growth that is inevitably straining the company's traditional policies of obtaining profits through technology; growing its own managers; and financing its own growth.

In many respects, it can be argued, Hewlett-Packard shows a company style more Japanese than American. In some ways it is like IBM, but with less rigidity in the system, less central control, and a greater concern for the individual.

Circuits designed by Bill Hewlett for his electrical engineering thesis at Stanford University in 1935, the first product developed by him and fellow graduates Dave Packard—an audio oscillator, built in 1938 in a one-car garage behind the Packards' rented home in Palo Alto. Walt Disney Studios ordered eight for the sound system used for the film *Fantasia*, and Hewlett-Packard was in business.

By the 1960s the company was a leading supplier of electronic measuring instruments, with a Rolls-Royce sort of name in laboratories around the world. Since then it has expanded into other markets,

and in particular into the world of electronic calculators (where it has an impressive list of "firsts" and computers.

Initially its computational products were aimed at the users of its technical and scientific instruments; more recently it has moved seriously into business data-processing; and last week it made its debut in the fast-growing market for personal computers.

The consistent introduction of internally developed products, says Mr. Young, is the key to the company's steady growth in annual sales in recent years of 15 to 20 per cent. In its 1979 financial year to the end of October sales grew by a record 36 per cent to £2,350m (about £1,050m).

At present the product mix (measured by sales) is 45 per cent electronic data products (calculators and computers), 42 per cent electronic test and measurement instruments (including components), 8 per

cent medical electronic products and 5 per cent electronic instrumentation for chemical analysis.

Calculators and computers are growing fastest (there was a 42 per cent increase in sales in 1979), and are expected to represent over half the company's total business within the next few years.

Hewlett-Packard is a big spender on research and development. In 1979 it invested its customary 9 per cent, or thereabouts, of sales in R and D (most of which is D), generating almost 100 new products in the process.

"We chose a product type of organization," says Mr. John Doyle, the Devon-born vice-president, personnel. (There are 17 operating divisions, each with six broad product groups; each division has its own R and D manufacturing and marketing units; but the sales forces are run by the appropriate group.)

"This gives a personal involvement with the product, and helps engineers to become good managers." Everybody seems to have two bosses, Mr. Doyle adds—his divisional manager and his superior within his own discipline.

"Many of us have always had two bosses," he comments, meaning Mr. H and Mr. P. "You didn't always get the same answer—but they were reconcilable."

Almost half H-P's total business is with customers outside the United States. In Britain, the company makes communications test equipment in its factory at South Queensferry, West Lothian, and is setting up a £6m software development centre at Pinewood, Wokingham, where the company's United Kingdom headquarters at Wincoburn.

Mr. John Young, president of Hewlett-Packard.

The new centre, says Mr. David Baldwin, managing director of the British company, will be a think-tank, and highly skilled professional people will develop the software and systems support for our computers."

H-P is among the Californian Silicon Valley companies which have been hit in recent months by shortages (and premium prices) of components, and rising material costs generally. Though the prospects for 1980 are generally good, Mr. Young does not expect the company to sustain the explosive growth it has experienced over the past two years.

The problems of growth are dramatically illustrated in terms of people employed. In the twelve months to the end of last October the company created 10,000 new jobs and recruited a further 7,300 replacements, bringing the total number of people employed worldwide to about 52,000. In other words, about one-third of H-P's employees have been with the company for less than a year.

Not only does this demand a tremendous basic training effort, but it puts more and more pressure on the process of selecting and training the company's managers—particularly the first-line supervisors, says Mr. Doyle. For Hewlett-Packard believes implicitly in growing its own managers—albeit the way.

I asked Mr. Hewlett whether his company would ever recruit senior managers from outside. "The system would reject them," he replied, "no matter how good they were."

Mr. John Young, president of Hewlett-Packard.

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Training accountants in small professional firms

From Mr. Warren C. Levy
Sir, Your recent management articles and letters in respect of the training of accountants seem to have ignored a very real and substantial sector. Much is talked of the large and medium-size firms which are able to provide a wide form of training for the apprentice accountant. The problem with these firms is that all too often the young budding accountant gets involved in the routine of a very low level during auditing and not so involved in the management or the activities behind the figures.

The experience of trainees in the smaller professional firms is quite different. Meeting senior management up to managing directors and major shareholders at a very early stage. Often being taken into their confidence when it comes to weighing up business problems and making high-level decisions.

It can be argued that these companies are often small and insignificant, however, the decisions that have to be made are the same as in a large company and will have the same proportional effect on the small company. In these companies the

same considerations apply with regard to financial implications, considerations, personnel, and the many other factors that go into running a business. Trainees within the small firms are therefore exposed at a far earlier age to good and bad management and can learn from this.

The inability of small firms to carry out the kind of professional in-house training conducted by the larger and medium-size firms of accountants can be compensated by external courses.

There is no doubt that experience in large companies is vital. This can be gained from a place where the opportunities will be greater and the spectrum of involvement wider, without spending three years with a large professional firm working a high proportion of mundane work which still needs to be carried out.

Yours faithfully,
WARREN C. LEVY,
Managing Director,
Clifford & Company
(Consultants) Limited,
Norwich Union House,
9 Mackenzie Street,
Slough, Berkshire.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Rising costs and the chemical companies

The latest round of oil price increases will probably cause problems for the world's chemical companies. Most of them weathered the last round well enough; but there was no problem over volume demand a year ago. There is not much of a problem now (except in fibres) but there is likely to be soon.

Chemical companies traditionally run into their recessions some months after their effects have become obvious elsewhere: so the fact that demand held up last year is not perhaps as surprising as the reassessment of profit estimates now in progress would suggest.

There have been some anxious calculations as to whether the level of demand reflects stock building which will make the downturn, when it comes, all the more savage; but so far the evidence for this is negligible.

Assuming, however, that things start to go wrong from the second quarter of next year (it could be earlier in Europe, but profits of British companies, at least, will look respectable by comparison with a period affected by the lorry drivers' strike), the question that arises is how far chemical companies will be prepared to chase volume at the expense of margins.

Of itself a rise in raw material prices (and naphtha contracts in the first quarter of 1980 are likely to be fixed at double the price of a year ago) provides arguments against chasing volume, since it lowers the breakeven point.

Thus there are reports already that BASF is refusing to buy naphtha on the spot market, on the argument that it could not make a sufficient profit on the extra volume this would permit to justify the exercise.

If this argument holds, the damage caused by the inevitable downturn in volume will be relatively limited. However, any attempt by, say, the European companies to hold their margins by increasing prices to reflect the rise in raw material costs, is going to present some tempting opportunities to outsiders to boost their volume by undercutting. If that happens—and it may not, since the likely competitors, the Americans, will probably look East instead—then the European producers will have to make an unappealing choice between cutting their margins and losing market share.

While such a choice is in the offing their shares, too, present an unappealing prospect. The one possible exception is ICI, whose exposure to the North Sea through a stake in Ninian ensures that it really cannot lose.

UK Banking

Tying up the loose ends

Now much tidier after the clearing bank mergers of the late 1960s and the secondary banking shakeout of the mid 1970s, there are still some ragged edges to be ironed out in British banking. Yorkshire Bank, for example, controlled by four of the clearers (NatWest, Barclays, Lloyds and Williams & Glyn's) has against the trend managed to stay independent.

There has been little to quibble about in the profits record, but all the same some voices among the shareholders question the logic of the bank staying independent, especially as it has now started to spread away from its northern roots.

The problem of course is to decide which shareholder should buy the others out and that impasse may help it keep out of the net for a while yet.

At the other end of the scale, there are some interesting looking consumer finance operations, which though temporarily struggling with high interest rates look attractive on a cyclical view. Lloyds and Scottish seem to be happy with its takeover of the troubled Cedar Holdings, since it has taken it into the second mortgage business. There is still First National Finance Corporation with almost a third of this unfashionable—but profitable—business which would attract a bidder were it not for the fact that it is still striking off its secondary banking legacy. The future also of the non-bank owned finance houses like United Dominions Trust, Provident Financial and Wagon Finance is frequently a matter of speculation.

Among the clearers Lloyds is the favourite to go through further structural changes in the next year or so. Hitherto its weakest link has been reckoned to be the lack of ownership of a finance house. This has forced it to go in for "big ticket" deals

so far as leasing is concerned and rely on its two-fifths stake in Lloyds and Scottish to provide the exposure in the highly profitable smaller leasing deals. Midland's move to put all its finance house activities under one roof has pushed Lloyds even further out on a limb.

But speculation that Lloyds would buy out Royal Bank of Scotland's interest in L and S has recently been overtaken by rumours—fuelled by Sir Jeremy Morse's remarks as chairman of Lloyds Bank International about a possible restructuring there—that Lloyds will soon sort out its involvement with Grindlays Holdings.

Five years ago Lloyds and Citibank stepped in to shore up a Grindlays wilting under the burden of itself rescuing the merchant bank Brandts. As a result, Lloyds has a 41 per cent interest in Holdings which controls 51 per cent of the banking arm where Citibank has its 49 per cent stake.

Clearly Grindlays faces a crossroads this year with some \$65m in loans from the two shareholders due for repayment and this will present the two banks with some soul-searching about their future involvement.

Despite a steady, if unspectacular, profits recovery in the last three years, Grindlays perennial problem has been the size of its capital base. The last accounts of the bank showed a balance sheet total of almost £3,000m supported by £128m of capital.

The Barclays balance sheet of £23,000m rests on capital of £1,358m only a sixth of which is loan capital. So the recent increase in authorized capital at Grindlays is probably nothing more than a pre-emptive move to boost the equity content at some stage.

But like other United States banks Citibank is not happy with stakes in other international banks while Lloyds could find Grindlays' exposure in the Middle East and the Pacific basin a useful tie in with LBI's existing spread.

Oil money

Unbalancing the banking system

Many international banks are becoming worried at the prospect of an influx of Iranian funds—if they are, as seems likely, being moved out of London—not to mention the huge amount of footloose Middle East money that appears to be looking for an alternative home outside the United States banking system in general and the dollar in particular. There are now signs that several big European banks are actively trying to discourage these large Opec funds by quoting them below the going inter-bank rate.

What is concerning the banking system is not simply the volatility of these funds but more importantly the fact that the inflow would play havoc with their capital to assets ratios. Without the big deposits abroad there would be no taking deposits abroad.

Their problems have been made worse by the trend over the last couple of years to much tighter prudential controls in some of the European banking centres. Japanese and French banks are probably the least constrained as yet by controls but in Germany and Switzerland the banking authorities keep matters on a short leash by laying down clearly defined capital ratios to which the banks have to adhere.

In particular the offshore subsidiaries of many of the leading European banks, which mushroomed in places like Luxembourg to handle their growing Euromarket activity, are now much more closely monitored.

Previously these offshoots did not have to be consolidated in group accounts. Now that the German and Swiss authorities insist that this is done, it means that their international operations have to conform to the same rigorous ratios as their domestic ones.

German banks have become frequent raisers of new equity in the last few years—last month for example two of the more successful groups Commerzbank and Bayerische Vereinsbank raised some DM420m through rights issues—just to maintain their capital to lending ratios following the rapid growth of business in the 1970s, and that gives them little scope for raising fresh money to handle an influx of Middle East funds.

Even if the banks could find that kind of capital, there is little incentive for them to do so with lending opportunities few and far between after the shockwaves the Iranian crisis has caused for international banking.

Balancing the books in an age of inflation

Oliver Stanley

This year should see resolution of a practical problem which has bedevilled British management for a decade: how best should company accounts show the effect of price level changes? Given 17 per cent inflation, the problem is critical.

Conventional historic cost accounting has become ineffective as a system designed to measure profit and value. In November 1979 Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, produced a massive catalogue of damage-inconsequences:

Investment decisions are capable of being distorted by lack of an inflation accounting system; dividends may be over-distributed; pricing may be prejudiced; unadjusted profits may be misleading in pay negotiations; capital markets may be misled; national resources may have been misallocated over the years; companies have been both over-taxed . . . and under-taxed . . .

The last consequence has produced a degree of urgency even among accountants who have been deeply divided since 1975 as to what system to adopt. The Governor of the Bank, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and before him Mr Healey, have all disclosed that the Inland Revenue is "looking into" the problem with accountancy profession help.

From that end of the telephone the problem is that the twin expedients applied to alleviate the 1974 corporate cash crisis have proved so successful

in combating profit inflation that corporation tax yield has almost collapsed.

The two expedients were: 100 per cent writing down allowances on plant and machinery; and stock relief (under which amounts equal to stock increases—whether representing changes in price volume, or changes in quantity—were simply eliminated from the computation of taxable profits).

Revenue statistics concede that the impact has been to deplete corporation tax by £4,300m for 1978-79. To see this figure in perspective, the net receipts from corporation tax, excluding advanced corporation tax (ACT) for that year was £2,500m, of which perhaps £500m was from capital gains. Over the preceding five years income tax yield doubled, while corporation tax remained roughly constant.

Clearly the corporate sector has not been bearing its fair share of the burden, but how can the position be corrected? Tinkering with stock relief can hardly help because the underlying concept is misconceived. The only answer is to press for

Net receipts: Inland Revenue taxes (£m)		
	Income tax and surtax	Corp tax and ACT
1973/4	7,444	1,838
1974/5	10,457	1,701
1975/6	15,150	1,530
1976/7	17,078	1,585
1977/8	17,450	2,080
1978/9	18,784	2,518
1979/80	19,885	3,220
	(est)	(est)

Source: Inland Revenue Statistics.

new conventional accounting practices, so that relief is given in the profit and loss account not in the separate tax computation.

If it emerges that real profitability has declined—over the period perhaps to as low as 5 per cent to 5 per cent return (real) on trading assets, by comparison with 17 per cent (unadjusted)—the collapse of corporation tax yield may seem justified.

The accountancy profession has been producing *Exposure Drafts* (a cautious and not committed approach) on the topic since 1973. In those innocent early days, the balance of opinion seemed to favour current purchasing power accounting (CPP), based on a single index representative of general purchasing power. All quoted companies would produce a supplementary statement in terms of value of the pound at the balance sheet date converted by use of the index, probably the retail price index.

Then came the Sandilands committee, and two years elapsed before it reported. When it did, CPP had been overtaken by current cost accounting (CCA), designed to adjust for specific price changes on individual businesses. In July, 1977, the "little men" in the Institute of Chartered Accountants threw out CCA as too complex, and although various compromises have been "exposed" since then, no conclusions have been reached.

The problem is how to get a true reflection of price level changes with the minimum amount of separate adjustments. This problem is at least tackled in ED 24, the 1979 version of a consensus solution, (Mr Richardson thought this

ED 24 PROPOSALS IN SIMPLIFIED FORM

	£000's	£000's
Profit before interest and tax (under historic cost)		2,500
Deductions:		
1 Additional depreciation	850	
2 Cost of sales adjustment	450	
3 Monetary working capital adjustment	100	1,719
Interest	200	1,190
Adjustments:		
4 Gearing adjustment	470	
Current cost operating profit		1,569
Corporation tax thereon:		750

Source: ED 24.

"close to general acceptance".

For a start, application would be only to companies which are quoted or have a £5m-plus turnover. This would hopefully exclude country businesses and practitioners who found CCA unacceptable in 1977.

There are four major ingredients prescribed:

1. Depreciation: An adjustment would be made to measure depreciation according to current asset replacement cost.

2. Cost of sales: The adjustment would effectively exclude stock appreciation from profit.

3. Monetary working capital: The adjustment would be designed to allow for the effect of changing prices on monetary items, in particular trade creditors and debtors.

4. Gearing: Finally, all the above adjustments would be reduced in the proportion that net assets financed by borrowing bear to total net operating assets. This is intended to reflect the benefit of borrowing in an inflationary era and to correct one of the most anomalous features of stock relief under which undersaving big borrowers got the best of both worlds.

If the Chancellor could establish some system on these lines by the time of his 1980 Budget, he could repeal stock relief, wipe out a lot of deferred taxation, and reestablish a corporation tax yield at say £2,000m above the estimate for 1979-80.

That would, in turn, permit him to give us meaningful capital taxation relief, including alleviation of stamp duty, which is overdue without having to claw back the yield from any other embarrassing source, for example VAT. But it is optimistic to think that a fully agreed system can be introduced within the next few months, and the temptation to compromise and to go for piecemeal changes will be a strong one. That temptation must be resisted.

So long as the short-term tax problem remains there is hope that the bigger, more fundamental problem will be tackled and resolved.

Who is responsible for the waste in the apple orchards?

British fruit growers are embarrassed by what they accept as a glaring waste of food under the CAP policy

Anyone who travelled among English orchards last autumn will have noticed thousands of apples and pears lying rotting on the ground. Yields were good, imported supplies were plentiful and there was far more fruit than the market could absorb.

What may not have been widely known is that tons of fruit were "dumped". Deep in the recesses of the EEC Common Agricultural Policy there are clauses about support for owners of orchards.

The aim of the fruit rules is the same as that for more familiar items in the policy, like beef and butter. It is to protect producers by fixing a support price below which produce will be bought with Community funds and removed from the market.

In the case of beef and butter the produce is stored by the Community at great expense and amid complaints about the inequity and wastefulness of keeping "mountains" of food. Protection of fruit growers has been much less conspicuous.

The rules for fruit state that a price will be set in Brussels at which food will be bought from co-operatives or producers by official EEC agencies. The agency in Britain is the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, a little-known organization of some 500 civil servants which administers the whole of the common agricultural policy here.

The policy favours the direction of food to human consumption above all other uses. When the intervention board buys fruit it is emptied under duress of its own approved charities and institutions like schools and hospitals.

If that fails, the board can direct its fruit to the market for animal feed ingredients.

If it cannot get rid of the produce in that way, the board

But, because of the glut, all the pears and more than three-quarters of the apples were dumped, and allowed to rot. Almost a fifth of the apples were used as animal feed after only a quarter of 1 per cent were accepted by approved institutions for human consumption.

British fruit growers are embarrassed by what they accept as a glaring waste of food under the common agricultural policy. Officials at the headquarters of the National Farmers' Union in London decline to name the farms on which fruit is dumped because they do not want the union to be associated with the destruction of food.

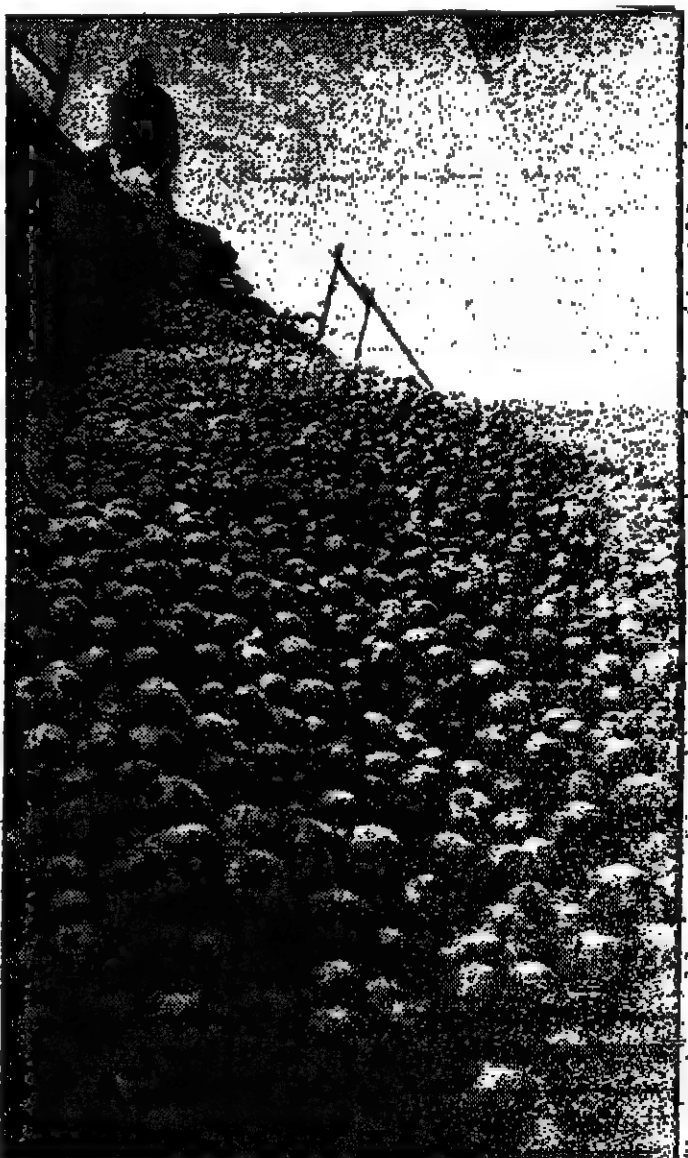
If food must be thrown away, there is no need to make an official ceremony of it, they believe.

Yet it is not the fault of the common agricultural policy that the British market was heavily over-supplied with apples in 1979 resulting in such dumping.

It was a good year for British yields, and the quality of home-grown fruit was high, but at the same time French growers persisted with an aggressive and successful marketing campaign in Britain. About 8 per cent of the world's commercial apples are grown in France and more than a third of French output is sold abroad.

In the past two years French growers have made sales as far afield as Finland, Dubai, Singapore and Libya. But their main export outlet is Britain, where sales in the main season between mid-August and mid-September were half as high again in 1979 as in 1977.

Fewer than half the apples eaten in Britain are now grown here and the price of French produce determines the price



Apples that reach shop shelves as liquid: bitter-sweet Herefordshire apples being stockpiled in a Hereford cider factory silo.

for all apples sold here in the main season. What outrages British growers is that France has scored its success with Golden Delicious, a variety which is despised for its blandness and cardboard texture among horticultural purists.

They received support a year ago from the French Ministry of Agriculture, which reported in an official bulletin about Golden Delicious that some commercial fruit was of poor quality. "They have no taste if they are picked too early," the ministry said. "The flavour goes if they are irrigated too heavily."

However, the dominance of the British market by such fruit shows that successive governments have been right to point to lack of marketing expertise as a significant weakness of British agriculture.

Hugh Clayton

Business Diary profile: Sir Lawrence of the Revenue

The chairmanship of the Board of Inland Revenue conjures up an image of propriety, pertinacity, gravitas and dullness—in short, all the nineteenth century qualities associated with public administration in the grand manner of the late Sir John Anderson, the dominating figure of interwar Whitehall. The new incumbent in Somerset House, Sir Lawrence Airey, who took over last week, is worried about it. A spare, sharply self-ironical and occasionally outspoken Georgie, he confessed: "Not being pompous could be a disadvantage. People expect the chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue to be a very large, sober individual who gets up and makes speeches."

"I will have to learn to conceal my natural diffidence and appear a suitably solid citizen. I shall need to speak more slowly and not be indiscreet to journalists."

One of the nice things about Sir Lawrence is that he always seems faintly surprised in his boyish way (for all his 53 years) at finding himself such an eminent person. His realistic, slightly caustic interventions at the Treasury's top policy making committee, will be missed on Tuesday mornings.

For his part, Sir Lawrence

will miss his Great George Street colleagues whom he likes, he says, without exception. "Working in the Treasury is an education. You are continually exposed to high quality thought. It keeps the mind alive. It produces active life, like 'Pal'."

It is refreshing to hear a permanent secretary like a department to dog food.

Sir Lawrence is no stranger to taxation. He began his career in the Office of the Registrar

General in Somerset House. His domineering regard him as a Treasury second permanent secretary, which he industrial policy, he found absorbing.

He was surprised, though, when Sir Ian Bancroft, head of the Home Civil Service, asked him to go back to Somerset House. His second reaction was to contemplate the awesome task of managing 80,000 people instead of the 200 who worked for him in the Treasury.

He was clearly a front-runner for the top Treasury job when Sir Douglas Wass retired. Is he to be out of the running? "I find it difficult to think of what to say to a question like that. To give an honest answer would take an essay."

Some of Sir Lawrence's colleagues regard him as a machine man rather than an ideas man; he knows how the system works—"a quality that should be of great value to the Revenue. The department has its industrial relations troubles and the age-old tension between the tax inspectorate, who have come up the hard way, and the policy men, who came in as direct graduate recruits, still exists."

Most of all, the department has frequently fallen victim to ministers wanting to achieve short-term ends at the expense of administrative efficiency and the continuity of the tax system as a whole. Sir Lawrence will have to stand up to his political

masters if any juggling is in prospect as PAYE moves on to computers in the early 1980s and a period of stability is required.

Ask him how to make the tax system a force for virtue by encouraging wealth creation and Sir Lawrence will ask you to find him an economist who can settle once and for all the question of whether higher taxes make people work harder to maintain their take-home pay or whether lower taxes have the clear incentive effect so often attributed to them.

He reckons that the evidence to date has been anecdotal and that the answer lies buried deep in human nature. "It is tracing causality in human economic relations that is the problem," he says, sounding much like a traditional Treasury man.

He will have to worry, too, about keeping social security and tax levels apart, another old faithful of the Revenue. "There are a hell of a lot of people at that level and it is very costly to raise tax thresholds," he says.

Sir Lawrence has seven years to build his monument in the tax field before retiring or reaching the start of his old age, as he puts it. Despite his fears about speaking too fast and that, he is most unlikely to grow pompous on the way.

Peter Hennessy



Sir Lawrence Airey, preparing to be "suitably solid" as he is ushered to the Inland Revenue chair by his predecessor, Sir William Pile.

Industry in the regions

New cargo charges pose problems in Liverpool

In spite of a shrinking labour force and continuing investment in modern cargo-handling facilities, the Port of Liverpool could become increasingly uncompetitive, and the North-west's trade and industry further undermined as a result.

This is the gloomy forecast by some of the port's main users who are faced with the probability of another big increase in master port charges next month.

The Liverpool Master Porters and Master Stevedores Association has given notice of a proposed increase from February. Although no figures have been announced, there are suggestions that the increase could be as much as 30 per cent. This would come on top of a 17½ per cent rise in other port dues which came in on January 1.

The final decision on the size of the increase in the port's dues is being made by the general cargo from ships to rail and road transport will not be made until after a meeting of Liverpool's Porters' Rates Panel on Thursday.

However, opposition to a rise of anything approaching 30 per cent is already growing and no doubt will be marshalled into a strong lobby at a meeting on Wednesday of the Port Users' Committee, which has representatives on the Rates Panel.

One of these representatives is Mr George Alcock, vice-president of the Liverpool

Corporation. He says: "The Port of Liverpool is becoming increasingly uncompetitive, and an increase in master port charges coming on top of the recent increase in port dues, presents a very serious situation. The sort of increase that is being suggested could only drive more trade away."

Charges or master portage at Liverpool were increased by 12½ per cent last May after a dockers' pay settlement.

The porters' association argues that in recent years changes in the general cargo commodity mix have led to increased costs because they involve more sorting and classification in the quays. It is claimed that on the basis of the costs involved in this highly labour intensive operation, an increase of more than 30 per cent could be justified.

It is the labour element in the handling of general cargo—which is still a crucial port function for the region's importers and manufacturing

firms in spite of the growth of bulk handling facilities on Merseyside—that makes master portage such a controversial issue.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company has been investing heavily in new facilities, and an £8.5m modernization programme on the waterfront has been started.

At the same time the port's dock labour force has been halved to just over 5,000 in the past few years. However, the port is still overmanned with an average daily surplus of up to 1,000 men. The port authority—the largest employer of dockers—and other port employers have had to meet substantial "voluntary" severance payments. They will have to budget for more redundancy payments if the new scheme to further reduce the labour force this year is agreed with the Dock Labour Board.

Master portage operations have increasingly become the one area of port activity in which a high percentage of costly dock labour is concentrated while other port activities are shedding labour.

Although it seems likely that some sort of compromise solution will be reached over the charges, the long-term view can only be that ultimately the high labour cost element in master portage operations will have to be passed on to port users.

R.W. Shakespeare

TENDERS MUST BE LODGED NOT LATER THAN 10.00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, 10TH JANUARY 1980 AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND, NEW ISSUES, 100, MARK LANE, LONDON, EC3N 2AF. OR BY REGISTERED MAIL TO THE BANK OF ENGLAND, 100, MARK LANE, LONDON, EC3N 2AF. TENDERS MUST BE IN SEALED ENVELOPES MARKED "EXCHEQUER TENDER".

ISSUE OF £1,100,000,000

14 per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 1984

MINIMUM TENDER PRICE £76.50 PER CENT

PAYABLE IN FULL WITH INTEREST

INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY ON 22ND MAY AND 22ND NOVEMBER

This Stock is an investment falling within Part II of the first Schedule to the Finance Act 1963. It is issued by the Bank of England on behalf of the Treasury. The Government and the Bank of England are authorised to receive tenders for the Stock. The balance of £1,100,000,000 has been reserved for the National Debt Commissioners for public funds under their management.

The principal of and interest on the Stock will be a charge on the National Loans Fund, with recourse to the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

The Stock will be repaid at par on 22nd May 1984. The Stock will be registered at the Bank of England or at the Bank of Ireland, Belfast, and will be transferable in multiples of one penny, by instrument in writing in accordance with the Stock Transfer Act 1963. Transfers will be free of stamp duty.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 22nd May and 22nd November. Income tax will be deducted from payments of more than 15 per cent. Interest warrants will be transmitted by post. The first warrant will be made on 22nd May 1980 at the rate of 15.104 per cent of the Stock.

Tenders must be lodged not later than 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 10th January, 1980 at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA or not later than 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9th January 1980 at any of the branches of the Bank of England or at the Glasgow Agency of the Bank of England. Each tender must be for one amount and of one price. The minimum price, below which tenders will not be accepted, is 76.50 per cent. Tenders must be made at the minimum price or at higher prices which are multiples of 25p. Tenders lodged without a price being stated will be deemed to have been made at the minimum price.

Tenders must be accompanied by payment in full, i.e. the price tendered (minimum of £86.50 for each £100 nominal) of Stock tendered for. A separate cheque must accompany each tender; cheques must be drawn on a bank in, and be payable in, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. Tenders must be in sealed envelopes marked "Exchequer Tender".

Tenders must be for a minimum of £100 Stock and for multiples of Stock as follows:

Amount of Stock tendered for	Multiple
£1,000—£5,000	£100
£5,000—£10,000	£200
£10,000—£50,000	£500
£50,000 or greater	£10,000

Her Majesty's Treasury reserve the right to reject any tender or to allot a less amount than that tendered for. If under- or over-allocated, the tenderer will be deemed to have accepted the allocation. The balance of the Stock not allocated at the minimum price to the Government and Company of the Bank of England, Issue Department, will be allocated at the lowest price at which the tenderer's tender is accepted. The tenderer will be deemed to have accepted the allocation price which will be allocated in full.

Letters of allotment in respect of Stock tendered will be despatched by post at the risk of the tenderer. No allotment will be made for a less amount than £100 Stock. In the event of partial allotment, or of tender at a price above the allocation price, the cash amount of the allotment will be despatched by post at the risk of the tenderer. If an allotment is made the amount paid with tender will be returned.

Letters of allotment may be split into denominations of multiple of £100 on written request received by the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA, or by any of the branches of the Bank of England, on any date not later than 25th March 1980. Such requests must be signed and must be accompanied by the letters of allotment. Letters of allotment, accompanied by a completed registration form, must be lodged for registration forthwith and in any case they must be lodged for registration not later than 28th March 1980.

Tender forms and copies of this prospectus may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA, or at any of the branches of the Bank of England, on any date not later than 25th March 1980. The forms must be completed and returned to the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA, or to any of the branches of the Bank of England, on any date not later than 25th March 1980.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON
4th January 1980

THIS FORM MAY BE USED

TENDER FORM

This form must be lodged not later than 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 10th January, 1980, at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA, or not later than 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9th January, 1980, at any of the branches of the Bank of England or at the Glasgow Agency of the Bank of England. Tenders must be in sealed envelopes marked "Exchequer Tender".

ISSUE OF £1,100,000,000

14 per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 1984

MINIMUM TENDER PRICE £76.50 PER CENT

TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND

I/we tender in accordance with the terms of the prospectus dated 4th January, 1980, as follows:

Amount of above-mentioned Stock tendered for, being a minimum of £100 and in a multiple as follows:

Amount of Stock tendered for	Multiple
£1,000—£5,000	£100
£5,000—£10,000	£200
£10,000—£50,000	£500
£50,000 or greater	£10,000

The price tendered for £100 Stock, being a multiple of 25p and not less than the minimum tender price of £76.50.

The price tendered for £100 Stock, being a multiple of 25p and not less than the minimum tender price of £76.50.

Sum enclosed, being the amount required for payment in full, i.e. the price tendered (minimum of £86.50 for every £100 nominal) of Stock tendered for.

I/we request that any letter of allotment in respect of Stock allotted to me/us be sent by post at my/our risk to me/us at the address shown below.

January, 1980 SIGNATURE of, or on behalf of, tenderer

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

MR/MRS/MISS	FORENAMES IN FULL
SURNAME	FULL POSTAL ADDRESS
POST-TOWN	COUNTY
POSTCODE	

The price tendered must be a multiple of 25p and not less than the minimum tender price. If no price is stated, the tender will be deemed to have been made at the minimum tender price. Each tender must be for one amount and of one price.

A separate cheque must accompany each tender; cheques should be made payable to the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Cheques must be drawn on a bank in, and be payable in, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Poor countries have assets but lack money

Among the unenlightened, the view has long prevailed that the preponderance of mining developments in the rich countries of the world was conclusive evidence of God's blessing on the Anglo-Saxon race. Ignoring the little matter of Middle East oil, intensive exploration for nearly two decades in apparently less favoured countries has called this supposition into question.

But even if the countries of the Third World, are well-endowed naturally, there is one respect in which they could feel that the God Lottery is biased against them: they have little money with which to develop their assets.

The problem, in fact, is serious for all of us, as a recent United Nations study has pointed out. It is estimated that if sufficient capacity is to be installed for iron ore, copper, aluminium, zinc, nickel and lead to meet forecasted extra demand for these metals between 1975 and 1990, total annual investment in the centrally planned economies will have to be \$12 billion.

Of that amount, about \$4 billion a year will need to be found for the centrally planned countries. The figure is based on the contribution known mineral reserves in the Third World can make to international demand. It is not, therefore, an act of charity to poor countries, though it can play an important part in their development.

One could go further and say that failure to develop these resources, which after all are valued at one-third of forecast increases, will cause supply difficulties for the industrial nations.

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reason for the inordinate lag which has played an important part in their development. Only a small proportion of the necessary capital can be provided by the Third World itself. It is calculated, for example, that of the \$4 billion required over the next 10 years—no long in terms of developing new mines—about three-quarters will have to come from outside.

But the traditional sources of finance, the big mining companies themselves, have shown a marked reluctance over the last decade to spend on this scale in the Third World. Some companies, Amstar is a case in point, make no bones about their policy of concentrating investment in "stable" countries. Others, such as Rio-Tinto-Zinc, with huge developments at Rossing and Bougainville, have been more adventurous.

It is nevertheless true that very few base metal projects have been undertaken by mining companies in the Third World over the last five years. This is not exclusively the fault of the companies. They were understandably deterred by the state of tax and royalty increases, forced sale of equity stakes, and outright nationalization, which accompanied the political emancipation of many colonial territories.

The slowdown in the world economy during the 1970s, a period which saw depressed prices for many of the metals in the United Nations study, did not help. Above all, simultaneous inflation enormously increased the cost of new mines and the complexity of financing them.

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The slowdown in the world economy during the 1970s, a period which saw depressed prices for many of the metals in the United Nations study, did not help. Above all, simultaneous inflation enormously increased the cost of new mines and the complexity of financing them.

But the traditional sources of finance, the big mining companies themselves, have shown a marked reluctance over the last decade to spend on this scale in the Third World. Some companies, Amstar is a case in point, make no bones about their policy of concentrating investment in "stable" countries. Others, such as Rio-Tinto-Zinc, with huge developments at Rossing and Bougainville, have been more adventurous.

It is nevertheless true that very few base metal projects have been undertaken by mining companies in the Third World over the last five years. This is not exclusively the fault of the companies. They were understandably deterred by the state of tax and royalty increases, forced sale of equity stakes, and outright nationalization, which accompanied the political emancipation of many colonial territories.

third of the total—were equity stakes. The worst part is that a similar new mine would probably cost at least twice as much. So where will poor countries find the money to realise their assets and to give us the minerals we shall need?

One answer is from the mining companies. Paradoxical as that may seem, the climate has changed. Third World governments and the companies understand each other a lot better. But some of the new projects may be too big even for corporations and local governments to take on together.

So the extra encouragement, particularly the guarantees or marginal finance which can tip the balance may increasingly have to be provided by international agencies. That in turn will give the banks less excuse for charging their usual premiums on loans to underdeveloped countries. If such cooperation became the norm, it might turn out that God is coffee coloured.

*Financing Mining Projects in Developing Countries. A United Nations study. By M. Radetzki and S. Zovini. Mining Journal Books, London 1979.

Michael Prest

Bougainville is a telling instance. Intended as a copper mine, it has in fact largely survived on the gold "by-product". The mine's total capitalization approaches \$500m. Of that amount, seven tranches were provided by loans from customers or the Euromarket, while a further three tranches—about a

half to 90 per cent. However, Bougainville chairman, Dr Bill Budden, tells shareholders in the annual report that, with the new retailing businesses less hungry for capital than the group's traditional meat operations, he is not unduly worried by the high cost of money.

The non-meat divisions, which include food manufacturing and catering, flavours and essences and the by-product supply of hides and skins to the tanning and leather market, ought to contribute an increasing proportion of profits, he added.

A note to the accounts shows that Bougainville made an £88,000 compensation payment to a director for loss of office. In the year under review group director, Mr David Burdett, resigned from the board, having worked for the group for two years.

Several of the directors have reduced their beneficial share holdings. Sir John Bougainville, recently appointed vice-chairman, has reduced his stake by 23,000 shares to 127,000 while Mr Christopher Fleming

cut his shareholding by 20,000 shares leaving him 50,000. The accounts also show that the insurance payout for the fire at the lamb chilling and cutting complex at Waitara, New Zealand, was some £3.2m higher than the net book value. The chairman reports the rebuilding is now underway and he expects a full season's production in the current year.

Two changes in the accounts have marginally altered the annual pre-tax profit figure. After a revaluation of fixed assets, the depreciation charge has been increased by £900,000 while the 36.1 per cent stake in Stanbrook Pastoral has been consolidated for the first time.

The effect of this is to add £1m to profits, virtually cancelling out the depreciation charge. Stated pre-tax profits in the year rose from 6.2m to 7.3m.

francs and noted a slightly greater profitability. In 1979, group sales totalled 4,800m francs. Currency fluctuations once again distorted the results expressed in Swiss francs as in local currency terms, group sales were up more than 15 per cent, which was generally in line with expectations, Roche said.

Chrysler improves
Chrysler Corporation said car sales for the last 10 days of December were up by about 75 per cent from mid-December, but gave no specific figures.

The company attributed the rise in market share to the federal loan guarantees passing Congress. Chrysler said, during labour negotiations with the United Auto Workers Union, that its domestic market share for the last 10 days of 1979 was about 22.4 per cent, up from 8.5 per cent for the middle 10 days. The figures include import sales.

W. German loans
The West German Federal Government loan totalling Dm1.5bn was believed not fully placed when its subscription period on the domestic bond market ended, bond market sources said.

Little investor interest was detected for the single-tranche loan with 74 per cent coupon at 99 per cent with presence overshadowed by the new Federal Railway Loan, terms of which have been announced.

The sources said the market expects the railway offering, totalling Dm750m over 12 years with an 8 per cent coupon at par, will have little difficulty in being fully placed.

Roche sales rise
Hoffmann-La Roche of Switzerland says that its provisional figures for 1979 show an increase in its consolidated turnover of about 7 per cent to more than 5,000m Swiss

Insurance and banking part of mixed bag

There is a fairly mixed bag of companies reporting this week with interim figures from insurance broker Hogg Robinson, along with full year figures from Sotheby's, the auctioneers, and with interim figures from Reron Motor and preliminary profits from English China Clays.

Economic indicators are also fairly active this week following the Christmas holidays. On Monday the Department of Industry weighs in with the Wholesale Price Index for December and on Tuesday the Central London Clearing Banks publish the London clearing banks monthly statement up until mid-December. Again on Tuesday the Bank of England issues the UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits.

December's last day of the week off on Thursday, comes the Central Government borrowing requirement for December from the Treasury.

The first of the more important companies reporting is Hogg Robinson on Wednesday, where experts anticipate profits for September 30, to reflect the general downward trend being experienced among insurance brokers.

Profits here are anticipated to be at the higher end of the scale. There has been a suggestion of between 20 per cent to 40 per cent throughout the industry.

In less than two months the big banks will publish their 1979 profits. But in banking as elsewhere in business time does not stand still, and already investors are looking to this year's outcome.

As usual, brokers agree with each other in general but disagree in particular. Mr Ian McLean of Wood, Mackenzie probably speaks for most analysts in identifying 1979's propellant to profits as high domestic interest rates and inflation. The main credit will have gone to domestic banking where Mr McLean thinks that profits rose by 72 per cent.

The disagreements are not however terribly sharp. Mr McLean suggests that the total pre-tax profits of the big four banks were more than £1.5bn, or an increase of 15 per cent. These in turn indicate rise in gross dividends of nearly a quarter.

Mr Keith Brown of W Greenwell goes for a 38 per cent rise last year and passing quickly to this year indicates a pre-tax profits fall of 5 per cent. In the first half of next year he guesses base rate at an average of 15 per cent. For the second six months he suggests an average of 11 per cent. But costs, especially wages, will also rise. Mr McLean of Wood Mackenzie thinks that profits next year will fall by 9 per cent to around £1.4bn.

He says guardedly that base rates should fall to 10 per cent by the end of the year with profits suffering in the second half, especially as the new level of staff costs makes itself felt.

Mr Brown thinks that the bank sector will stay strong for the next few weeks but "if the equity market responds to falling interest rates, bank shares are likely to be poor relative performers."

Mr McLean continues to recommend a full weighting, especially in Barclays, National Westminster and Standard Chartered.

Another important feature on Thursday is the full year profits from English China Clays in spite of pre-tax profits in the first half of £10.4m being below most

Insurance and banking part of mixed bag

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

US ban on grain to Russia hits dry sector

The slow return to normal for the freight market following the long holiday was shattered in the dry cargo sector in particular by the threat of a United States ban on further grain sales to the Soviet Union.

While the threat, which is being used as a means of retaliation after Russia's intervention in Afghanistan, still has to become a reality the United States Department of Agriculture is undertaking a study of the impact which such a ban would have.

Looking ahead, the general feeling in the marketplace was that dry cargo activity would remain relatively stable through the summer of this year.

Freight report

That feeling was based on a steady level of Soviet grain shipments. If a ban is introduced this forecast would receive a severe knock.

Ironically, the United States department announced another small grain purchase last week amounting to some 140,000 tons. This brings total purchases so far in the fourth year of the five-year deal between the United States and Russia to 11.1 million tons of corn with the total of all grain purchases standing at 16.3 million tons.

As to actual trading, for owners, brokers and charterers most of last week was spent in picking up where they left off prior to the holiday. Trading was generally slow but there were hints of both China and the Soviet Union taking tonnage.

As usual, few details were available. Among the Soviet tonnage booked was reported to be a 28,000 tonner for a six months period at \$7,700 daily. As far as the Chinese are concerned, there were no indications of pre-holiday level. Transatlantic grain fixing continued to be subdued although a few bookings were made and towards the end of the week new orders for shipments for 50,700,000 tons appeared.

Among business concluded was one charter for the United States Gulf to Genoa of 37,000 tons at a rate of \$17 a ton. Throughout the week chartering was still being influenced by the holiday. It is too early to judge what the market performance will be in the early part of 1980 but immediately for the United Kingdom the steel strike will not help and in India elections are holding up this country's chartering activities.

Unlike previous years the tanker market experienced an active first week of the year with demands for medium-sized vessels being good. Interest overall was at a greater pitch than usual and the crude availability reasonable. However, interest in larger tonnage out of the Gulf weakened and rates slipped back accordingly.

Of the vicar district last week, Gulf to Europe charters slipped from worldwide \$5 at end-December to worldwide \$4.9 just after new year.

David Robinson

More share prices

The following will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News.

Commercial Industrial
Kumuk Holdings
Warner Holidays
Properties
Wereldhave

Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Credit	17%
C. Hoare & Co.	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminister	17%
Rosenminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15%, over £25,000 12.5%.

Volatile silver market conditions expected to continue

Overall, it appears likely that the current volatile conditions in silver will continue for the time being, with large price swings occurring in response to changes in speculative sentiment, but with the underlying tendency remaining firm, in support of the recent upward initiative which has taken place.

This view is expressed by Samuel Montagu in their monthly silver letter which reviews the metal's performance in December. They recall that during the first part of the month prices remained in a comparatively stable range, between \$19 and \$20 per ounce, providing some consolation of the rapid rise which had occurred over the last few days of November.

The initial firmness, reflected in a quotation of \$19.88 on the 3rd was not sustained in the short term and prices drifted back to \$19.09 on the 10th, but at this point the upward momentum was strongly re-established, and once the \$20 level had been exceeded for the first time on the 12th, quotations quickly advanced during the next 10 days, reaching \$24.50 by the 24th.

After the holiday break, the buoyant tendency was reinforced by the worsening political situation in Afghanistan, and in the conditions prevailing in the market, further upward pressure took place, so that on the 31st a new record level of \$32.20 was quoted.

After a period of comparative quietness during the greater part of October, which November, says the letter, the silver market swiftly responded to a revival of speculative activity with a massive advance in quotations very similar to that which had occurred during September.

Once again, whereas all precious metals exhibited a strongly rising tendency throughout the month, in silver the escalation in prices was very much greater than in gold and platinum.

Whereas on the previous occasion the volume of business accompanying the rapid rise was exceptionally heavy, activity has been noticeably less during the recent period of greatest price advance, reflecting a lack of sellers even at currently prevailing price levels.

On the United States futures market, says the letter, trading has been generally at rather modest levels, being restricted on a number of days to the

lity of offerings to the market.

"Clearly the impetus for the rapid escalation in prices has been largely speculative, prompted initially by the news of higher than anticipated increases from the oil producing countries and further reinforced by the escalating tension in Afghanistan coupled with continued political and economic problems in Iran.

"Moreover, there has also been good consumer interest in Europe, which has assisted in steadying the market at times when profit taking might otherwise have precipitated a sudden decline in prices."

Sugar outlook. Brokers C. Zarnikow say in their annual sugar review that the world supply position will clearly be much tighter in 1980 than for several years.

Whether the supply tightness will ease in the second half of the year, as has been forecast in some quarters, will depend on many currently unknown factors of production and consumption.

Apart from government decisions in 1980 on whether to import or export, the United States Congress has yet to legislate enabling it to play its full part in the International Sugar Agreement, while the EEC has to decide on production policy for the next five years.

The size and timing of any further Soviet sugar purchases for 1980 arrival are also likely to have an important bearing on the world market, Zarnikow says.

The Soviet Union bought sugar in November and December and is unlikely to have completed purchases for 1980 arrival having come to the market early in its producing season.

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Commodities

nearby delivery month, with other forward months constrained by the daily permissible price movement from the previous closing level.

Open interest on the New York Commodity Exchange has remained steady, standing at 132,941 contracts on December 27, compared with 134,207 contracts on November 30. Warehouse stocks have shown a further increase over the month to 72.6 million ounces on December 26, having been 69.4 million ounces on November 30, whereas on the Chicago Board of Trade they remained essentially unchanged at 58.3 million ounces.

The most noteworthy feature of the past month's activity, says the letter, is that a substantial increase in quotations has occurred from a level which was already considered by many observers to be extremely high, at a time when the future supply/demand pattern appeared to be pointing towards an improved availability.

Dissenting view of Dm issues

West Germany's success in restoring inflation over the past year has provided a strong inducement for the Bundesbank to purchase internationally distributed bonds denominated in Deutsche marks, writes A.P. Dow Jones.

In the 1970s, investors in Deutsche mark Eurobonds have consistently benefited from large real yields after the effects of inflation have been deducted.

From the point of view of dollar-based investors, the relatively inflation-free expansion of the German economy has brought with it considerable appreciation of the currency. The Deutsche mark started the 1970s at about 25 cents and ended the decade at near 50 cents, representing an appreciation of 100 per cent.

Many analysts have argued that investment in Deutsche mark Eurobonds will remain attractive during this decade because the German electorate's deep-seated fear of inflation will allow German politicians to take any unpleasant measures needed to keep prices from rising swiftly.

However, Eurobond analysts at Ross and Partners (Securities) have taken a dissenting view, arguing that a long-term rise in Deutsche mark yields and decline in prices could develop in the coming years, along the way, the Deutsche mark will lose its status as a

"hard currency", these analysts assert.

Writing in *Ross and Partners* bond letter, Mr Perry Aldred and Mr Brian Scott Oulton contend that diversification out of the dollar and into Deutsche marks and other hard currencies will have run its course in the coming years. They expect the movement back into dollar and dollar securities to be early in the uncharted decade ahead

rather than later", they said.

Their view of a reversal in fortune between the dollar and Deutsche mark is based on the premise that the two factors of monetary stringency and the doubling of oil prices last year will produce the worst recession since the 1930s.

They argue that a world slowdown will have a much greater adverse impact on Germany's trade than on US trade, given Germany's high unit labour costs and its relative inability to save on energy costs.

The US trade outlook is considered to be better because the US can cover a substantial part of its reliance on imported oil and at the same time replace imports of small cars with domestically built ones.

Therefore, Messrs Aldred

and Scott Quinn foresee Germany piling up substantial deficits for current trade in goods and services, and that when the US current account is improving, they also point out that the Deutsche mark is increasingly more widely held as a reserve currency and hence vulnerable to shifts in currency preferences.

In its November monthly report, the West German Federal Bank estimated that foreign holdings of Deutsche mark assets in Germany totalled the equivalent of about \$108bn at the end of last year, or about double the amount held five years earlier.

"If the example of the two traditional reserve currencies—sterling and the dollar—is anything to go by, then reserve currency status can very quickly move from causing a currency to remain overvalued to a rapid downward adjustment on the world's foreign exchanges, the Ross and Partners report said.

Moreover, recent figures suggest that Germany's current account has already begun to deteriorate. The West German Federal Bank reported last week that Germany's current account deficit for the first 11 months came to the equivalent of about \$5.1bn in the first 11 months of last year, whereas the latest available US figures show that the US recorded a small surplus of about \$100m in the first nine months.

Euromarkets

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

US STRAIGHTS	Offer Price	Yield	Premium
ECB 8 1/2% 1984	99 1/2	12.25	1.00
ECB 9% 1985	99 1/2	12.50	1.00
ECB 9 1/2% 1986	99 1/2	12.75	1.00
ECB 10% 1987	99 1/2	13.00	1.00
ECB 10 1/2% 1988	99 1/2	13.25	1.00
ECB 11% 1989	99 1/2	13.50	1.00
ECB 11 1/2% 1990	99 1/2	13.75	1.00
ECB 12% 1991	99 1/2	14.00	1.00
ECB 12 1/2% 1992	99 1/2	14.25	1.00
ECB 13% 1993	99 1/2	14.50	1.00
ECB 13 1/2% 1994	99 1/2	14.75	1.00
ECB 14% 1995	99 1/2	15.00	1.00
ECB 14 1/2% 1996	99 1/2	15.25	1.00
ECB 15% 1997	99 1/2	15.50	1.00
ECB 15 1/2% 1998	99 1/2	15.75	1.00
ECB 16% 1999	99 1/2	16.00	1.00
ECB 16 1/2% 2000	99 1/2	16.25	1.00
ECB 17% 2001	99 1/2	16.50	1.00
ECB 17 1/2% 2002	99 1/2	16.75	1.00
ECB 18% 2003	99 1/2	17.00	1.00
ECB 18 1/2% 2004	99 1/2	17.25	1.00
ECB 19% 2005	99 1/2	17.50	1.00
ECB 19 1/2% 2006	99 1/2	17.75	1.00
ECB 20% 2007	99 1/2	18.00	1.00
ECB 20 1/2% 2008	99 1/2	18.25	1.00
ECB 21% 2009	99 1/2	18.50	1.00
ECB 21 1/2% 2010	99 1/2	18.75	1.00
ECB 22% 2011	99 1/2	19.00	1.00
ECB 22 1/2% 2012	99 1/2	19.25	1.00
ECB 23% 2013	99 1/2	19.50	1.00
ECB 23 1/2% 2014	99 1/2	19.75	1.00
ECB 24% 2015	99 1/2	20.00	1.00
ECB 24 1/2% 2016	99 1/2	20.25	1.00
ECB 25% 2017	99 1/2	20.50	1.00
ECB 25 1/2% 2018	99 1/2	20.75	1.00
ECB 26% 2019	99 1/2	21.00	1.00
ECB 26 1/2% 2020	99 1/2	21.25	1.00
ECB 27% 2021	99 1/2	21.50	1.00
ECB 27 1/2% 2022	99 1/2	21.75	1.00
ECB 28% 2023	99 1/2	22.00	1.00
ECB 28 1/2% 2024	99 1/2	22.25	1.00
ECB 29% 2025	99 1/2	22.50	1.00
ECB 29 1/2% 2026	99 1/2	22.75	1.00
ECB 30% 2027	99 1/2	23.00	1.00
ECB 30 1/2% 2028	99 1/2	23.25	1.00
ECB 31% 2029	99 1/2	23.50	1.00
ECB 31 1/2% 2030	99 1/2	23.75	1.00
ECB 32% 2031	99 1/2	24.00	1.00
ECB 32 1/2% 2032	99 1/2	24.25	1.00
ECB 33% 2033	99 1/2	24.50	1.00
ECB 33 1/2% 2034	99 1/2	24.75	1.00
ECB 34% 2035	99 1/2	25.00	1.00
ECB 34 1/2% 2036	99 1/2	25.25	1.00
ECB 35% 2037	99 1/2	25.50	1.00
ECB 35 1/2% 2038	99 1/2	25.75	1.00
ECB 36% 2039	99 1/2	26.00	1.00
ECB 36 1/2% 2040	99 1/2	26.25	1.00
ECB 37% 2041	99 1/2	26.50	1.00
ECB 37 1/2% 2042	99 1/2	26.75	1.00
ECB 38% 2043	99 1/2	27.00	1.00
ECB 38 1/2% 2044	99 1/2	27.25	1.00
ECB 39% 2045	99 1/2	27.50	1.00
ECB 39 1/2% 2046	99 1/2	27.75	1.00
ECB 40% 2047	99 1/2	28.00	1.00
ECB 40 1/2% 2048	99 1/2	28.25	1.00
ECB 41% 2049	99 1/2	28.50	1.00
ECB 41 1/2% 2050	99 1/2	28.75	1.00
ECB 42% 2051	99 1/2	29.00	1.00
ECB 42 1/2% 2052	99 1/2	29.25	1.00
ECB 43% 2053	99 1/2	29.50	1.00
ECB 43 1/2% 2054	99 1/2	29.75	1.00
ECB 44% 2055	99 1/2	30.00	1.00
ECB 44 1/2% 2056	99 1/2	30.25	1.00
ECB 45% 2057	99 1/2	30.50	1.00
ECB 45 1/2% 2058	99 1/2	30.75	1.00
ECB 46% 2059	99 1/2	31.00	1.00
ECB 46 1/2% 2060	99 1/2	31.25	1.00
ECB 47% 2061	99 1/2	31.50	1.00
ECB 47 1/2% 2062	99 1/2	31.75	1.00
ECB 48% 2063	99 1/2	32.00	1.00
ECB 48 1/2% 2064	99 1/2	32.25	1.00
ECB 49% 2065	99 1/2	32.50	1.00
ECB 49 1/2% 2066	99 1/2	32.75	1.00
ECB 50% 2067	99 1/2	33.00	1.00
ECB 50 1/2% 2068	99 1/2	33.25	1.00
ECB 51% 2069	99 1/2	33.50	1.00
ECB 51 1/2% 2070	99 1/2	33.75	1.00
ECB 52% 2071	99 1/2	34.00	1.00
ECB 52 1/2% 2072	99 1/2	34.25	1.00
ECB 53% 2073	99 1/2	34.50	1.00
ECB 53 1/2% 2074	99 1/2	34.75	1.00
ECB 54% 2075	99 1/2	35.00	1.00
ECB 54 1/2% 2076	99 1/2	35.25	1.00
ECB 55% 2077	99 1/2	35.50	1.00
ECB 55 1/2% 2078	99 1/2	35.75	1.00
ECB 56% 2079	99 1/2	36.00	1.00
ECB 56 1/2% 2080	99 1/2	36.25	1.00
ECB 57% 2081	99 1/2	36.50	1.00
ECB 57 1/2% 2082	99 1/2	36.75	1.00
ECB 58% 2083	99 1/2	37.00	1.00
ECB 58 1/2% 2084	99 1/2	37.25	1.00
ECB 59% 2085	99 1/2	37.50	1.00
ECB 59 1/2% 2086	99 1/2	37.75	1.00
ECB 60% 2087	99 1/2	38.00	1.00
ECB 60 1/2% 2088	99 1/2	38.25	1.00
ECB 61% 2089	99 1/2	38.50	1.00
ECB 61 1/2% 2090	99 1/2	38.75	1.00
ECB 62% 2091	99 1/2	39.00	1.00
ECB 62 1/2% 2092	99 1/2	39.25	1.00
ECB 63% 2093	99 1/2	39.50	1.00
ECB 63 1/2% 2094	99 1/2	39.75	1.00
ECB 64% 2095	99 1/2	40.00	1.00
ECB 64 1/2% 2096	99 1/2	40.25	1.00
ECB 65% 2097	99 1/2	40.50	1.00
ECB 65 1/2% 2098	99 1/2	40.75	1.00
ECB 66% 2099	99 1/2	41.00	1.00
ECB 66 1/2% 2100	99 1/2	41.25	1.00
ECB 67% 2101	99 1/2	41.50	1.00
ECB 67 1/2% 2102	99 1/2	41.75	1.00
ECB 68% 2103	99 1/2	42.00	1.00
ECB 68 1/2% 2104	99 1/2	42.25	1.00
ECB 69% 2105	99 1/2	42.50	1.00
ECB 69 1/2% 2106	99 1/2	42.75	1.00
ECB 70% 2107	99 1/2	43.00	1.00
ECB 70 1/2% 2108	99 1/2	43.25	1.00
ECB 71% 2109	99 1/2	43.50	1.00
ECB 71 1/2% 2110	99 1/2	43.75	1.00
ECB 72% 2111	99 1/2	44.00	1.00
ECB 72 1/2% 2112	99 1/2	44.25	1.00
ECB 73% 2113	99 1/2	44.50	1.00
ECB 73 1/2% 2114	99 1/2	44.75	1.00
ECB 74% 2115	99 1/2	45.00	1.00
ECB 74 1/2% 2116	99 1/2	45.25	1.00
ECB 75% 2117	99 1/2	45.50	1.00
ECB 75 1/2% 2118	99 1/2	45.75	1.00
ECB 76% 2119	99 1/2	46.00	1.00
ECB 76 1/2% 2120	99 1/2	46.25	1.00
ECB 77% 2121	99 1/2	46.50	1.00
ECB 77 1/2% 2122	99 1/2	46.75	1.00
ECB 78% 2123	99 1/2	47.00	1.00
ECB 78 1/2% 2124	99 1/2	47.25	1.00
ECB 79% 2125	99 1/2	47.50	1.00
ECB 79 1/2% 2126	99 1/2	47.75	1.00
ECB 80% 2127	99 1/2	48.00	1.00
ECB 80 1/2% 2128	99 1/2	48.25	1.00
ECB 81% 2129	99 1/2	48.50	1.00
ECB 81 1/2% 2130	99 1/2	48.75	1.00
ECB 82% 2131	99 1/2	49.00	1.00
ECB 82 1/2% 2132	99 1/2	49.25	1.00
ECB 83% 2133	99 1/2	49.50	1.00
ECB 83 1/2% 2134	99 1/2	49.75	1.00
ECB 84% 2135	99 1/2	50.00	1.00
ECB 84 1/2% 2136	99 1/2	50.25	1.00
ECB 85% 2137	99 1/2	50.50	1.00
ECB 85 1/2% 2138	99 1/2	50.75	1.00
ECB 86% 2139	99 1/2	51.00	1.00
ECB 86 1/2% 2140	99 1/2	51.25	1.00
ECB 87% 2141	99 1/2	51.50	1.00
ECB 87 1/2% 2142	99 1/2	51.75	1.00
ECB 88% 2143	99 1/2	52.00	1.00
ECB 88 1/2% 2144	99 1/2	52.25	1.00
ECB 89% 2145	99 1/2	52.50	1.00
ECB 89 1/2% 2146	99 1/2	52.75	1.00
ECB 90% 2147	99 1/2	53.00	1.00
ECB 90 1/2% 2148	99 1/2	53.25	1.00
ECB 91% 2149	99 1/2	53.50	1.00
ECB 91 1/2% 2150	99 1/2	53.75	1.00
ECB 92% 2151	99 1/2	54.00	1.00
ECB 92 1/2% 2152	99 1/2	54.25	1.00
ECB 93% 2153	99 1/2	54.50	1.00
ECB 93 1/2% 2154	99 1/2	54.75	1.00
ECB 94% 2155	99 1/2	55.00	1.00
ECB 94 1/2% 2156	99 1/2	55.25	1.00
ECB 95% 2157	99 1/2	55.50	1.00
ECB 95 1/2% 2158	99 1/2	55.75	1.00
ECB 96% 2159	99 1/2	56.00	1.00
ECB 96 1/2% 2160	99 1/2	56.25	1.00
ECB 97% 2161	99 1/2	56.50	1.00
ECB 97 1/2% 2162	99 1/2	56.75	1.00
ECB 98% 2163	99 1/2	57.00	1.00
ECB 98 1/2% 2164	99 1/2	57.25	1.00
ECB 99% 2165	99 1/2	57.50	1.00
ECB 99 1/2% 2166	99 1/2	57.75	1.00
ECB 100% 2167	99 1/2	58.00	1.00
ECB 100 1/2% 2168	99 1/2	58.25	1.00
ECB 101% 2169	99 1/2	58.50	1.00
ECB 101 1/2% 2170	99 1/2	58.75	1.00
ECB 102% 2171	99 1/2	59.00	1.00
ECB 102 1/2% 2172	99 1/2	59.25	1.00
ECB 103% 2173	99 1/2	59.50	1.00
ECB 103 1/2% 2174	99 1/2	59.75	1.00
ECB 104% 2175	99 1/2	60.00	1.00
ECB 104 1/2% 2176	99 1/2	60.25	1.00
ECB 105% 2177	99 1/2	60.50	1.00
ECB 105 1/2% 2178	99 1/2	60.75	1.00
ECB 106% 2179	99 1/2	61.00	1.00
ECB 106 1/2% 2180	99 1/2	61.25	1.00
ECB 107% 2181	99 1/2	61.50	1.00
ECB 107 1/2% 2182	99 1/2	61.75	1.00
ECB 108% 2183	99 1/2	62.00	1.00
ECB 108 1/2% 2184	99 1/2	62.25	1.00
ECB 109% 2185	99 1/2	62.50	1.00
ECB 109 1/2% 2186	99 1/2	62.75	1.00
ECB 110% 2187	99 1/2	63.00	1.00
ECB 110 1/2% 2188	99 1/2	63.25	1.00
ECB 111% 2189	99 1/2	63.50	1.00
ECB 111 1/2% 2190	99 1/2	63.75	1.00
ECB 112% 2191	99 1/2	64.00	1.00
ECB 112 1/2% 2192	99 1/2	64.25	1.00
ECB 113% 2193	99 1/2	64.50	1.00
ECB 113 1/2% 2194	99 1/2	64.75	1.00
ECB 114% 2195	99 1/2	65.00	1.00
ECB 114 1/2% 2196	99 1/2	65.25	1.00
ECB 115% 2197	99 1/2	65.50	1.00
ECB 115 1/2% 2198	99 1/2	65.75	1.00
ECB 116% 2199	99 1/2	66.00	1.00
ECB 116 1/2% 2200	99 1/2	66.25	1.00
ECB 117% 2201	99 1/2	66.50	1.00
ECB 117 1/2% 2202	99 1/2	66.75	1.00
ECB 118% 2203	99 1/2	67.00	1.00
ECB 118 1/2% 2204	99 1/2	67.25	1.00
ECB 119% 2205	99 1/2	67.50	1.00
ECB 119 1/2% 2206	99 1/2	67.75	1.00
ECB 120% 2207	99 1/2	68.00	1.00
ECB 120 1/2% 2208	99 1/2	68.25	1.00
ECB 121% 2209	99 1/2	68.50	1.00
ECB 121 1/2% 2210	99 1/2	68.75	1.00
ECB 122% 2211	99 1/2	69.00	1.00
ECB 122 1/2% 2212	99 1/2	69.25	1.00
ECB 123% 2213	99 1/2	69.50	1.00
ECB 123 1/2% 2214	99 1/2	69.75	1.00
ECB 124% 2215	99 1/2	70.00	1.00
ECB 124 1/2% 2216	99 1/2	70.25	1.00
ECB 125% 2217	99 1/2	70.50	1.00
ECB 125 1/2% 2218	99 1/2	70.75	1.00
ECB 126% 2219	99 1/2	71.00	1.00
ECB 126 1/2% 2220	9		

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Dec 28. Dealings End, Jan 11. \$ Contango Day, Jan 14. Settlement Day, Jan 2

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quote)

Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publication.

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CATERING-PRIVATE & COMMERCIAL
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Commercial Properties

Property

More shops and offices on the way

The new year opens with work well advanced on a number of new developments, and others planned. In Newhaven, Sussex, the foundation stone has just been laid for a central shop and office precinct just off High Street, a development being carried out by Ridgeway Properties, of Brighton.

The first phase, due for completion by the summer, will involve the construction of a 27,000 sq ft supermarket for International Stores, with 14 other shops

totalling about 12,000 sq ft, offices of 6,000 sq ft and a multi-storey park for 200 cars.

A second phase of about 5,000 sq ft of shops and 5,000 sq ft of offices is due to be started in the autumn. The site is two acres and the cost is about £2.5m. Architects are Gamble, Cook and Warner, of Worthing, and letting is through Hillier Parker May and Rowden of London.

One of the features is the closing of the remaining part of High Street to traffic. The upper end was converted in 1978 and will now be linked to the new development.

Also in Sussex, Tarmac Properties are about to start building Times House in Perryman Road, Haywards Heath. The scheme will provide about 42,000 sq ft of offices on lower ground, ground and four upper floors, and on-site parking for 150 cars will be provided. The building is a short walk from the railway and bus terminals.

When completed in the autumn of 1981, the development is expected to have an investment value of more than £4m. Letting is through Jones Lang Wootton and Geering and Colyer. Recent office lettings in Haywards Heath have been priced at over £5.50 a sq ft.

In London, Haslemere Estates have entered into a development agreement with Charrington to buy the freehold of 46 and 47 Aldgate High Street, EC3. These are the only remaining seventeenth century timber-framed group of buildings of their kind in the City, and have a grade two listing as being of special architectural or historic interest. No 47 was formerly the Hoop and Grapes public house.

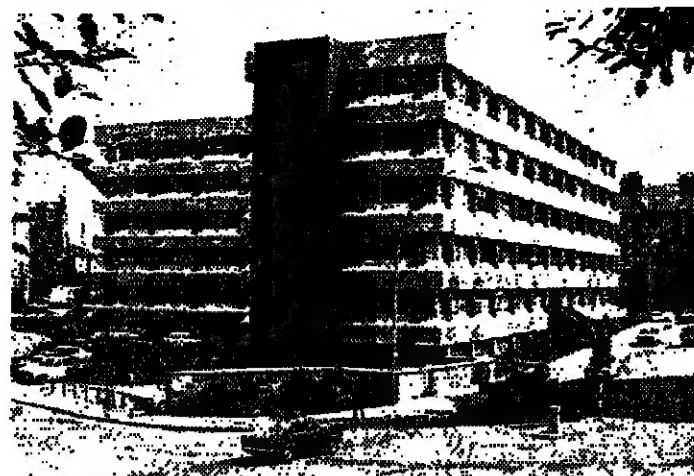
With the GLC Superannuation Fund, represented by Hillier Parker May and Rowden, Haslemere will carry out an extensive restoration with a new extension behind No 46. The scheme will provide 8,000 sq

ft of offices. Part will be leased back to Charrington to continue the life of the Hoop and Grapes.

In London's West End, Brent Walker is to submit detailed plans to Westminster City Council, after approval in principle, for the conversion into a hotel of the former Debenham and Freebody department store in Wigmore Street, W1.

The leisure and property group bought the freehold for about £3.5m last year, subject to such approval being given. Conversion of the listed building is expected to cost a further £8m. Architects are G. R. Stone and Associates, of Warwick, and the scheme provides for a five-star hotel of 250 rooms which may be open in two years.

The 24-storey office building being built for Baring Brothers and Co, at 8-10 Bishopsgate, EC2, was topped out shortly before the end of last year and is due for completion in the spring of 1981. The scheme is being carried



Inverlair House, Aberdeen: a rent of £6 a sq ft is being asked for third floor offices.

out by Barings in association with Electricity Supply Nominees and will provide about 145,000 sq ft of offices.

About 70,000 sq ft is likely to be surplus to Barings' needs and will be marketed jointly by Hillier Parker May and Rowden, development managers, and Richard Ellis, advisers to the nominees.

In Scotland, a rent of £6 a sq ft is being asked for third floor offices in Inverlair House, Aberdeen. The third floor provides a total of 10,500 sq ft in two separate suites located off a central service core. In addition, there are 40 on-site parking spaces available.

The offices are being offered on a lease of 20 years at an initial annual rent of

£63,000 with five-yearly reviews, and the parking spaces are available at £200 each a year. The property is at the junction of West North Street and King Street. Letting is on behalf of Legal and General Assurance (Pensions Management) and the agents are Richard Ellis, of Glasgow.

In the industrial field, an important development just announced is a scheme for an estate of some 13 acres off Olympic Way, Wembley, some six miles from central London. The site has been acquired by Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society, which will also be providing the development funding.

Project managers will be Arunbridge. Work is to start shortly and the plans provide for 320,000 sq ft of industrial and warehouse accommodation in units from 5,000 sq ft. The price of the site and the development cost amount to more than £12 million. In the sale of the site Michael Laurie and Partners acted with

Knight Frank and Rutley for the vendors, and both agents have been retained for letting.

Work has started on a factory and warehouse scheme being carried out by Walter Lawrence Estates in Brewers Hill Road, Dunstable. The site was bought from the local authority. The development will provide eight units, totalling 65,000 sq ft, ranging from 6,400 sq ft up to 10,250 sq ft, which are due to be ready in the summer. The scheme is being funded by the Equitable Life Assurance Society. Letting is through King and Co, which advised the developers.

Koyo Bearings (UK) has sold its long lease on a warehouse of 70,000 sq ft on the Normanton industrial estate near Wakefield to National Panasonic for close to the asking price of £900,000. The sale was through Weatherall Hollis and Gale, and Walker Son and Packman acted for National Panasonic.

Gerald Ely

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also pages 5 & 21

SECRETARIAL

NEW YEAR APPOINTMENTS

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY West London
Circa £6,000
Experienced and educated shorthand secretary for client and V.I.P. liaison at top level. Big company benefits.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY City
Circa £5,000
Good business secretarial background using shorthand and possibly audio for senior professional consultant.

AUDIO SECRETARY City
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Considerable confidential correspondence and administration for Financial Controller of very large partnership. Numeracy and some shorthand useful.

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Circa £5,000
Monitoring, liaising and contributing to new business sector of office systems development in building and engineering.

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Reliance Executive Services
(Consultants)

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TO ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY
A vacancy has arisen at our Executive Head Office in Marylebone Road for a Shorthand Secretary to our Assistant Company Secretary.
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A good working salary, many fringe benefits and a pleasant working environment are offered to the successful applicant.
Please apply to Personnel Department, P. W. Woolworth and Co. Ltd., 242-246 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.
Tel: 262 1222

WOOLWORTH

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Vacancies for Personal Secretaries to work for Parliament: Interesting, responsible and varied work, probably for new Select Committees in the Department of the Clerk of the House. Pleasant surroundings, generous holidays and pensions.
Applicants should be aged 18 to 35 and have good shorthand and typing speeds (minimum 100/40) and at least three G.C.E. "O" Level passes including English Language.
Salary £4,057 p.a. - £4,830 p.a.
Write, with full particulars to Trisha Inglis, Establishment Office, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Closing date 11th January, 1980.

SUGAR 'N' SPICE

Sugar and Rice from Trinidad are marketed by this company and the director needs an entrepreneur to help him with government reps and clients. Someone who can bring their secretarial experience to aid with shipping, insurance and selling the produce. Speak to Eve Carter on 734 0911. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS).

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PERSONNEL—£5,000

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SECRETARIAL

LANGUAGES

During 1979 we have found jobs in London for secretaries with French, German, Polish, Italian, Swedish, Portuguese and Dutch and temporary work for many of our applicants while they were waiting. If, therefore, you are looking for a new job in the New Year where you can make use of your languages, why not ring Caroline Ruby at International Secretaries on 921 7108. We currently have jobs waiting using Spanish, French, German, Italian, Swedish and Norwegian for secretaries with one of these languages and sub-English shorthand or speedwriting.

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or write enclosing C.V. to:
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Well-educated and/or particularly efficient secretary prepared to work for a busy, successful, dynamic director. This is a TOP PA/SEC with a dynamic director. You must be able to work under pressure for a demanding, high-powered boss who will give you a enormous scope.
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Engineering Co. in SW1 requires a fluent French speaking Sec. to assist in a very busy dept. Good opportunity to use your language skills. Salary £4,000 p.a. plus benefits. Call 588 7321. Personnel Appointments

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Come and work in this well-known, friendly company for a partner and three managers. Opportunity to train on word processor and generous perks include £1 L.V.s per day, season ticket loan and free private health scheme. Call Diana Bird on 248 3833. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS).

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SECRETARIAL

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A newly created post of Principal Secretary is available in connection with a scheme for the development of the Universities of the United Kingdom. The scheme, which commenced in 1980, will provide for the advancement of research and development in the field of education. The successful applicant will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the scheme and will be required to travel extensively throughout the United Kingdom. The salary will be in the range of £5,000 to £6,000 per annum, plus a generous pension scheme and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Universities of the United Kingdom, c/o The Secretary, 100 Victoria Street, London W1B 4JF.

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The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Society and will be required to travel extensively throughout the United Kingdom. The salary will be in the range of £5,000 to £6,000 per annum, plus a generous pension scheme and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Incorporated Society of Valuers, 100 Victoria Street, London W1B 4JF.

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P.A. POTENTIAL

£5,500
Are you an Executive Secretary? Then this is your job. You will be the Chairman's P.A. in this friendly insurance company. Enjoy working in a charming people, plus all the benefits of a large company. Call Lee Durkin on 248 3833. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS).

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Are you an Executive Secretary? Then this is your job. You will be the Chairman's P.A. in this friendly insurance company. Enjoy working in a charming people, plus all the benefits of a large company. Call Lee Durkin on 248 3833. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS).

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12-4 (or 11.30-3.30)
Press contacts, dealing with press releases, writing, editing, etc. 1 day per week.
Use of the most charming PR ladies we know!
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Use of the most charming PR ladies we know!
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Interior design company in Soho. The Managing Director requires a Secretary to work for the Managing Director. Duties include: handling all incoming and outgoing correspondence, making appointments, etc. Salary £4,500 p.a. plus benefits. Please telephone 730 2111 for an appointment.

SOUTH KENSINGTON

Fast growing small American luxury food company with office in pleasant house, staff of 6. Needs well educated person with shorthand and typing to organise M.D. and pitch in generally. £5,500 neg. 9-5.15 or pro-rata 10-4.
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Fast growing small American luxury food company with office in pleasant house, staff of 6. Needs well educated person with shorthand and typing to organise M.D. and pitch in generally. £5,500 neg. 9-5.15 or pro-rata 10-4.
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PROMOTE BRITISH TRADE ABROAD. Young bright Secretary with some experience for City organisation. Good at organising and with good skills. £5,000 +
PERSONNEL ASSISTANT with good secretarial skills for our nearest Mayfair clients. Real involvement. Should be 21-30 and cheerful personality. £5,000 +
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PROMOTE BRITISH TRADE ABROAD. Young bright Secretary with some experience for City organisation. Good at organising and with good skills. £5,000 +
PERSONNEL ASSISTANT with good secretarial skills for our nearest Mayfair clients. Real involvement. Should be 21-30 and cheerful personality. £5,000 +
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Commercial Properties and Services to the Business World

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Including highlights from Donny MacLeod's films about his Russian journey which begin transmission on January 28.

1.45 How Do You Do? Children's story. The Special People. Close-down at 2.00.

3.15 Songs of Praise: Among the canals people of Rugby (r).

3.55 Play School: Frances Lindsay's story Mr Bits and Pieces's Lucky Day.

4.20 Touché Turtle: cartoon. A Whale of a Tale (r).

4.25 Jackanory: Joanna David (Rebecca in the television serial) reads Natalie Babbitt's mystery story, The Eye of the Amazon.

4.40 Playhouse: The Silver Fish. From the Jackanory stable, a play by John Tully about a man who claims to be a king's long-lost son.

5.00 John Craven's Newsworld: Junior newscast.

5.05 Blue Peter: An artist's sketch of a due to the age of Scottish Highlands trees.

5.35 The Pershires: Very short comedy, with Leonard Rossiter.

5.40 News: 5.55 Nationwide: Includes Luke Casey's round-Britain legends hunt. Tonight: where money grows on trees.

6.45 A Question of Sport: Sports quiz. Contestants include yachtsman Clare Francis and death-metal Daley Thompson.

7.15 Blake's Seven: New series of space adventures by Terry Nation. Space butchery on the planet Sarra. Same old cast, with the addition of Josette Simon as Danya, Earth-woman.

8.10 Panorama: Exclusive footage about Joshua Nkomo and his guerrillas. Also an interview with Mrs Gandhi (see Personal Choice).

9.00 News: with Angela Ripston.

9.25 Film: Thunderbolt and Light-

BBC 2

10.05 am I Figures: Re-run of the useful BBC 1 series in which Jimmy Young shows us how to improve our Maths.

10.30 Working with Young People: Another 30 min. re-run. All about first-job problems.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Close-down at 11.25.

2.30 pm Roads to Conflict: The causes of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Less topical now than when first shown in 1978.

3.00 That's the Way the Money Goes: Play about a customer's rights. Close-down at 3.25.

5.40 Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe: Episode 3 of the good old serial. Walking Bombs.

THAMES

9.30 am The Legend of Haino: The story of an ancient Korean temple.

10.20 Film: The Love Boat (1976): comedy about a holiday cruise. The television movie that spawned a mediocre television series.

11.55 The Babbles: cartoon. Fun at the Fair.

12.00 James and the Magic Torch: cartoon. All Tied Up.

12.10 pm Rainbow: Puppet, songs and story show, with Snow and Ice as the theme.

12.30 Numbers at Work: Fred Harris's series about everyday Maths.

1.00 News: with Peter Sissons.

1.20 Thames News: with Robin Houston.

1.30 Heart to Heart: Interview with Anne Jones, head of a London comprehensive school.

2.00 Food, Wine and Friends: Robert Carrier is the presenter of

6.00 Newsworld Africa: New series about the continent since 1980, by the John Craven Newsworld team. Mr Craven and Lucy Mathen are the reporters (see Personal Choice).

6.30 Magic Sounds: Yugoslav cartoon.

6.45 Training Dogs the Woodhouse Way: New series. Hints for handling your pet. With Barbara Woodhouse and Personal Choice.

7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.20 Rock Goes to College: Lene Lovitch and her band at Liverpool University.

8.10 An Evening with The Three Degrees: Well-known soul group.

8.15 Highlights from the trio's Royal Albert Hall concert.

9.00 Solid Conducts Russian Music: Special concert conducted by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Shostakovich's Symphony No. 1. Prokofiev's Classical Symphony and Shostakovich's Prelude to Khovanshchina.

10.00 Soul of a Nation: Part 2 of the documentary about the royal family of Thailand. We see King Bhumibol Adulyadej at work. Sit at John Gielgud reads the narration.

11.30 The Light of Experience: Not a Child Any More. Singer Helen Shapiro, a star at 13—she is now 40.

11.45 News and weather.

12.00 Close-down: Richard Murphy's poem The Reading Lesson, read by Georgina Anderson.

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We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

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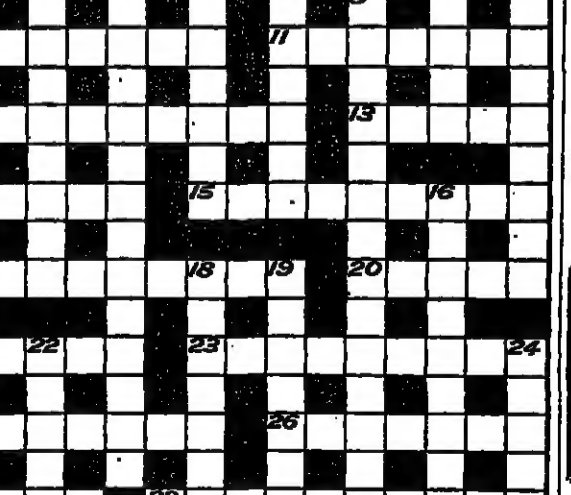
BIRTHS

BARBONCH—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Barbionch. (The family have three other children.)
DEANE—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Deane. (The family have three other children.)
DRURY—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Drury. (The family have three other children.)
HEATH—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Heath. (The family have three other children.)
LOWE—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Lowe. (The family have three other children.)
SLATER—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Slater. (The family have three other children.)

MARRIAGES

TRIMMER—On January 1 at St. Thomas' Hospital, St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Trimmer. (The family have three other children.)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,115



- ACROSS**
- 1 Opportunity to return US bank money to law officer (10).
 - 2 Apostolic instruments (4).
 - 3 Wine, to mature in carriage (7).
 - 4 Limb broken in the sewer cover (7).
 - 5 Ruler regulation of study by one great mistake (9).
 - 6 Rising generation said to have risen so early (3-2).
 - 7 She heads the record—one with enormous eyes (5).
 - 8 Withdraw from fighting—return the ring (7).
 - 9 Absent-minded Pole absorbed by seizure (9).
 - 10 Retraints if cornered (5).
 - 11 Seely peer (5).
 - 12 Various uses pa can put them to on the range (9).
 - 13 Game found in more versions (7).
 - 14 Was Adam, so occupied, a gentleman? (7).
 - 15 Wit of international discussions (4).
 - 16 Alleges that drummer is indignant (10).
- DOWN**
- 1 Detectives held up young Archer (5).
 - 2 They organize scores of things (9).
 - 3 Would broking firm en-

MARRIAGES

GOLDEN WEDDING
STIRLING-HAMILTON—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Stirling-Hamilton. (The family have three other children.)

DEATHS

BARCLAY—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Barclay. (The family have three other children.)
DEANE—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Deane. (The family have three other children.)
DRURY—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Drury. (The family have three other children.)
HEATH—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Heath. (The family have three other children.)
LOWE—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Lowe. (The family have three other children.)
SLATER—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Slater. (The family have three other children.)

IN MEMORIAM

WRIGHT—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wright. (The family have three other children.)
DEANE—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Deane. (The family have three other children.)
DRURY—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Drury. (The family have three other children.)
HEATH—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Heath. (The family have three other children.)
LOWE—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Lowe. (The family have three other children.)
SLATER—On January 1 at St. Mary's, London, a daughter, Jane, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Slater. (The family have three other children.)

FORTECOMING EVENTS

JANE HALLING—Famous, Sale Now On, 46 Sloane Ave., S.W.1.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
WESTMINSTER ABBEY CHOR VOICE TRIAL
Boys with musical ability who are aged between 8 and 9 on Wednesday, 15 February, 1980, are eligible for a voice trial on this date.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

where more of your money goes on research. The campaign is a collection of the most recent research into the causes of cancer. The U.K. of research into the causes of cancer. The U.K. of research into the causes of cancer.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

The Annual Dinner of The Mount St. Mary's College, London, will be held on Thursday, 14th March, 1980, at the Grosvenor Hotel, London. The dinner will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel, London.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CASINO OF ST. JAMES'S—London's most famous casino, offering a wide range of games and entertainment. The casino is located in St. James's, London.

SPORT AND RECREATION

PHILIP SHOOTING—A shooting competition for children, held at the Philip Shooting Ground, London. The competition is held annually in January.

UK HOLIDAYS

COTTAGE & BARNHOLM—A holiday home in the Cotswolds, offering a peaceful retreat from the city. The cottage is located in the Cotswolds, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEART RESEARCH—A research project into the causes of heart disease, funded by the British Heart Foundation. The project is led by Dr. John Smith.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 23

THE TIMES NEWSPAPER

The Times Newspaper deeply regrets the inconvenience and reduction in service to its classified advertisers. This is caused by severe staff shortages in the Telephone Sales Department. Whilst everything possible is being done to improve the situation, we would ask advertisers to continue sending advertisements and notices in writing to The Times, Room N315, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ. If you require any further help, please ring 01-837 3311, we apologise should there be a delay in getting through.

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LUXURY—Fully equipped flat near Baker St. 2 bed, 1 bath, central heating. 725 6015.
INSTANT PLAYS—Charming, luxury serviced, Mr. Page 375 3333.
NOTTING HILL—Short let 3 wks from Baker St. 725 6015.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BARGAIN HOLIDAYS JAN/APRIL
Iac flights, hotel, 7 wks 1.1 m.
Matera from 725 6015.
Costa del Sol from 725 6015.
Tenerife from 725 6015.
REGENCY TOURS
01-236 8511.
JANUARY SKIING BARGAINS
20th and 27th Jan.
21st and 28th Jan.
22nd and 29th Jan.
23rd and 30th Jan.
24th and 31st Jan.
25th and 1st Feb.
26th and 2nd Feb.
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